

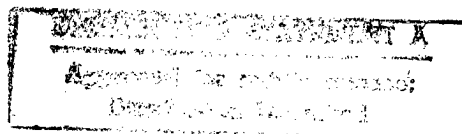
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1 October 1982

Near East/North Africa Report

No. 2631



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CONTENTS

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

- Kuwaiti Paper: Khalili Al-Wazir Denies Rifts Within PLO
(Khalil al-Wazir; AL-QABAS, 17 Sep 82) 1

EGYPT

- Egyptian Prime Minister Statement
(Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din; Cairo Domestic Service, 20 Sep 82)... 2
- NPUGP Statement on U.S. Initiative
(AL-AHALI, 15 Sep 82) 16

IRAN

- Iranian Interior Minister on Iraq, Counterrevolutionaries
(TEHRAN, 19 Sep 82) 21
- 'JOMHURI YE ESLAMI' on Tehran Clashes
(JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI, 12 Sep 82) 22
- Iranian Paper on Arrest of Minigroup in Khuzestan
(KEYHAN, 12 Sep 82) 23
- Musavi Ends Visit To Hormozgan
(TEHRAN, 18 Sep 82) 24
- Clandestine Radio Reports 200 Guards Killed in Tehran in 10 Days
(Free Voice of Iran, 18 Sep 82) 25
- Iran Clandestine Broadcasts Antiregime Communique
(Free Voice of Iran, 21 Sep 82) 26
- Iran Clandestine Reports on Arrest of Children
(Free Voice of Iran, 20 Sep 82) 27

Hahsemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Radio, TV Journalists (TEHRAN, 22 Sep 82)	28
Iranian Paper Reports Hanging of 'Hypocrites' (KEYHAN, 28 Aug 82)	29
Iranian Terrorists Executed in Bojnurd (ETTELA'AT, 7 Sep 82)	30
Iranian Gendarmerie Head on Organization's Performance (IRNA, 21 Sep 82)	32
Iranian Bank Official Sees Economy in Good Shape (IRNA, 21 Sep 82)	33
'KYODO' Interviews Iranian Ambassador Govahi (KYODO, 21 Sep 82)	35
Ongoing Autonomy Struggle of Kurds Reviewed (Jean Bertolino; LE MONDE, 13, 14 Aug 82)	37
Iran, Malta To Strengthen Bilateral Relations (IRNA, 19 Sep 82)	45
Briefs	
Paper Cites Purging Sermon	46
Hypocrite Shot in Ilam	46
Executions in Ahvaz Reported	46
Hashtpar Mobilization Kills Hypocrite	46
Tudeh Party Behind Execution	47
Saudi Forces Deployed Near Pilgrims	47
U.S. Embassy March Planned	47
Iranian-Tanzanian Political Ties Discussed	48
Iranian Ambassador To Spain	48

IRAQ

Iraqi Oppositionists on Husayn Regime's 'Weakness' ('Ali 'Abd al-Khaliq and Hashin 'Ali Muhsin Interview; EL PAIS, 9 Sep 82)	49
Front Opposes Iran's Penetration in Iraq (Voice of Iraqi Revolution, 18 Sep 82)	52
Baghdad 'VOP' Urges West Bank, Gaza Uprising (Baghdad Voice of Palestine, 10 Sep 82)	53
'INA' Interviews Air Force Commander on War (INA, 5 Sep 82)	55

Briefs		
Anti-Iraqi Front Meets		56
Engineering Corps' War Role		56
Ambassadors To Iraq		56
Outgoing Qatari Ambassador		56
Anti-Regime Operation Opposition Radioed		57
JORDAN		
Jordan Paper Ridicules U.S. Pledges on Beirut		
(Amman Domestic Service, 19 Sep 82)		58
Daily Urges Firm U.S. Stand Toward Israel		
(Amman Domestic Service, 18 Sep 82)		59
KUWAIT		
Kuwaiti Newspaper Urges Arab Military Strike Against Israel		
(KUNA, 19 Sep 82)		60
Kuwait's 'Al-Watan' Scorns Arab Impotence		
(Editorial; AL-WATAN, 19 Sep 82)		62
Kuwaiti Papers Comment on Beirut 'Massacre'		
(KUNA, 21 Sep 82)		64
'KUNA' Director Interviewed on Lebanon Situation		
(KUNA, 22 Sep 82)		66
LEBANON		
'AL-ANWAR' on Israeli, Syrian Withdrawal		
(Beirut Domestic Service, 12 Sep 82)		68
Hasan Khalid Interviewed		
(Hasan Khalid Interview; AL-HAWADITH, 3 Sep 82)		69
Briefs		
New Netherlands Ambassador		74
Aid To Lebanon		74
LIBYA		
Anniversary of Revolution Prompts Progress Review		
(JAMAHIRIYA MAIL, 4 Sep 82)		75
Compulsory Education		
College Enrollment		
Roads, Transport		
Industry Advances		

MOROCCO

Natural Changes in Fish Crop Affect Canning Industry (LA VIE ECONOMIQUE, 23 Jul 82)	78
--	----

OMAN

Oman Foreign Ministry Denounces Beirut Carnage (Muscat Domestic Service, 20 Sep 82)	84
Budget Cuts Ruled Out (Nic Hammes; OMAN DAILY OBSERVER, 30 Aug 82)	85

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PDRY Declares 3-Day Official Mourning Period (Aden Domestic Service, 20 Sep 82)	87
PDRY Popular Organizations Denounce Massacre (Aden Domestic Service, 20 Sep 82)	88
PDRY Chairman Receives Fidel Castro's Cable (Aden Domestic Service, 22 Sep 82)	89
Briefs Chairman Greet Saudi Officials	90

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Statement Condemns 'Barbaric Crime' in Beirut Camps (RIYADH, 18 Sep 82)	91
Saudi King Sends Cables To Lebanon's Sarkis, Al-Wazzan (RIYADH, 19 Sep 82)	92
Saudi King Fahd Cables 'Arafat on Lebanon 'Massacre' (RIYADH, 19 Sep 82)	94
Saudi Minister Discusses Problems With Iranian Pilgrims (RIYADH, 18 Sep 82)	95
'RIYADH': Condemning Israeli Aggression Is Not Enough (Hashin 'Abdu Hashim; RIYADH, 18 Sep 82)	96
'RIYADH' on Fadh's Call for U.S. To Shoulder Responsibilities (Hashim Abdu Hashim; RIYADH, 20 Sep 82)	98
Saudi Press Discusses Beirut Massacre Aftermath (SPA, 22 Sep 82)	100
'RIYADH' Comments on Saudi, Palestinian Role in Mideast (Hashim Abdu Hashim; RIYADH, 21 Sep 82)	102

Saudi Papers View Beirut 'Massacre,' Fadh's Policy (SPA, 21 Sep 82)	103
Briefs	
Minister Views 'Massacres,' Summit	105
Comments on 'Arafat's Visit	105
Declining Oil Revenues	105
SYRIA	
Syrian Paper Condemns U.S. Support for Israel (SANA, 17 Sep 82)	107
Damascus on U.S. Complicity in Israeli Raids (Damascus Domestic Service, 14 Sep 82)	108
Muslim Brotherhood Leader on Past Actions, Plans (LE MATIN, 7 Sep 82)	110
Briefs	
Opposition Requests Al-Asad Ousting	114
YEMENI ARAB REPUBLIC	
Yar President on Cancellation of Celebrations (San'a' Domestic Service, 20 Sep 82)	115
Yar Issues Statement on Beirut Massacres (San'a' Domestic Service, 18 Sep 82)	117

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

KUWAITI PAPER: KHALILI AL-WAZIR DENIES RIFTS WITHIN PLO

GF181554 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 17 Sep 82 p 1

[Report on exclusive statement by PLO's Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, to AL-QABAS correspondent in Tunis Muhammad Ahmad al-Qabasis--date not given]

[Text] Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, has denied that there is any rift or schism within the PLO. He told AL-QABAS: The battle of Beirut has provided our movement with a basic phenomenon which is national cohesion as well as serving as a demonstration of the will for unity, within the will to struggle, among all the combatants and the leaders in the various Palestinian revolutionary organizations. He added: This cohesion has been consolidated by the fire of the Lebanese war. The unity of these forces has been revealed more than any time previously. This unity will reach its highest level in the direction of national unity and it begins with the unity of will [and continues on] to achieve the unity of factions. Abu Jihad stressed that this is possible by saying: This particular stage which we are experiencing entails achieving unity of the revolutionary political command, in addition to the unity of the strategy of the revolution, and this is the crux. The strategy implies the unity of the fighters within one framework. In defining future plans he said: The battle of Beirut and the massacre of Lebanon have reinforced our faith in continuing our struggle through the revolution. This consequently reinforces our political struggle and creates a firm basis for political moves in all fields. The slogan of the next stage will be continuation of armed struggle alongside political and diplomatic moves.

On his meeting with the [Palestinian] combatants in the Tunisian camp he said: We hold continuous contacts with the forces of the revolution in the places they are staying following their departure from Beirut. He also stressed that these forces are being reorganized while awaiting their next assignment.

CSO: 4400/497

EGYPTIAN PRIME MINISTER STATEMENT

JN201140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0807 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Statement by Egyptian Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din at the opening session of the third Egyptian National Democratic Party Congress in Cairo on 20 September--live]

[Text] Mr President, members of the party. This is the third National Democratic Party [NDP] Congress which is being held following an eventful year during which our great people shouldered their responsibilities honorably and steadfastly and continued the march for peace, freedom and democracy by sacrifice and sustained work for Egypt.

This year the land was liberated, and our beloved Sinai' returned, thus fulfilling the great expectation [applause] for which our heroic people fought in the glorious October war, which they won and raised the banner. Also, the foundations of peace were consolidated in a true and sincere nationalist manner within the framework of democracy and the supremacy of law.

During these moments, Egypt gratefully remembers her pure martyrs, loyally remembers here late President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat [applause], the founder of our NDP, and remembers all those who struggled for the dignity of Egypt and her territorial integrity. Brothers, I ask you to stand for 1 minute in honor of the memory of our valiant martyrs and our late president--without them we would not have had victory or peace. [1 minute silence] [cheers]

Members, you gathered at an extraordinary meeting on 26 January, 1982, to appoint to the leadership of the party, a leadership, whose past heroism and patriotism, qualified it to give the nation a new and extensive thrust in its struggle for a better life. At your extraordinary meeting on 26 January, you nominated sincerely and truly a leader of the party, leader President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. [applause]

Our NDP has always reflected the conscience of our great people. It believes that the way to fulfilling the hopes of the masses is best represented by the sincere and noble performance which is far from vituperations and which places the public interest above the private interest. Our NDP has thus

affirmed its responsibility for defending the values and principles on which the society is founded. Our party has perseveringly called for conducting dialogue through convincing arguments and not by acrimonious debates; through the supremacy of law, freedom and democracy for the sake of building the Egyptian man and achieving his prosperity.

Our party has always affirmed that Egypt belongs to all Egyptians without discrimination and irrespective of their political persuasions, because the party activities must, first and foremost, be a national action that consolidates freedom, unifies the ranks and defends the trust. Party activities must not suppress or threaten this trust. The national action emanates from the fact that all the Egyptian sons are partners in being loyal to Egypt and in making Egypt live its age and achieve its aspirations or progress free from all chains that obstruct its development or limit its movement. This is the sound framework for a healthy democracy.

Democracy is the guarantee and the means to rectify mistakes. Democracy will always remain the indisputable fact for developing national action and for attaining the best means to forge ahead with this action.

Our NDP shouldered a historical responsibility in guiding the national action, in its capacity as the party of the majority that expresses the conscience of our great people. Our party does not rely on the majority which it enjoys, but it tries to consolidate it by good examples and persuasion. Our party believes the profound and strong party goal depends on its achievements on the pan-Arab level. It also believes that the sound way to implement the goal of its programs and the spreading of its principles is through faith, perseverance and the vigilant moves of the masses. The national action can, under no circumstances, tolerate slackness, dependence on others or haughtiness. The national action cannot be a slogan or fame. It mirrors the responsibility in its lofty image and crystallizes the broad hopes of our great people.

We attached great importance to completing the organizational structure of our party from the top to the bottom. This was achieved by our ceaseless efforts in supporting the various organizational aspects by means of the know-how and skills that they can offer.

To achieve this, the NDP General Secretariat has re-formed. Its activities became comprehensive and its responsibility has changed qualitatively and geographically. The General Secretariat and the branch secretariats attach all attention to the party's move. They represent the link and liaison between the party bases and leaderships. The branch secretariats participate with the executive leaderships and those of the party on the governorates level in the work to solve the masses' problems and support the party's structure, thus achieving a close link among the party's various levels.

The General Secretariat attaches a special importance to preparing capable and vigilant party cadres. Since its formation, the party has attached importance to combining the technical work with the political work by forming qualitative committees on the General Secretariat level which sincerely represents this unity.

The party also formed committees to coordinate the various party leaderships that work in the same sector in the legislative or executive authority or in the party General Secretariat with the aim of achieving connections and integration in the party action.

Our party believes in the inevitability of real contact with the masses. In addition to continually expanding the party's rank and file organizations, we are keenly determined to hold continuous conferences in the provinces to enable the masses to meet with the party leaderships in their political, popular and executive positions. Such conferences will be the main basis for political decisions. This is the method we used in preparing for the party general congress at the provincial level.

There are different methods of establishing contact between the party and the masses; from the spoken and written word to the general and exclusive meetings. One of the methods our party depends on is the party press. We hope the party's newspaper will convey this message deeply and eloquently to the masses of our people in every place. Furthermore, we are planning to publish a newspaper for the youth [applause] that will establish a link between the party's broad youth base and the leadership. This newspaper will be run by the youth itself and enriched by its thoughts. After all, the youth is the hope of this nation. It embodies its future. Increasing interest in the welfare of the youth in order to exploit and pool its resources, solve its problems and respond to its aspirations is the guarantee for the solidarity and stability of the society.

The party also believes in the woman's role in society and her great contribution to its progress. The party is paying special attention to women's activities and is following with interest their achievements in the various fields of party action.

Mr President, honorable members: The party has an ideology, and it is essential to present the general outlines of this ideology so they will be thoroughly studied by the Congress. The people of Egypt have established one of the noblest civilizations known to mankind. This people exposed itself to the civilizations around it and interacted with them selflessly and without bigotry. But at the same time, it preserved its identity in the face of the many invasions and domination campaigns and the onslaught of different ideological trends throughout history.

Our people's many uprisings in modern history against the forces of occupation, foreign influence and corrupt governments were a true indication of their nobility and revolutionary ability to fight for their rights, freedom and progress--hence the 'Umar Makram uprising against French occupation, the Ahmad 'Urabi uprising against the corruption and submissiveness of the Royal Palace, the national struggle against the British colonialists whose banner was courageously carried by Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid, and the great revolution of 1919 under the leadership of Sa'd Zaghlul and his comrades. The monarchy's failure to achieve the aspirations of the masses and its action in seeking the protection of the colonialists led to the 23 July 1952 revolution under the late leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir [long applause]

which was a great turning point not only in the history of Egypt and the Arab world, but in the whole of the Third World.

The late President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat [applause] led the corrective movement of 15 May 1971, stressing his determination to continue the revolution in order to achieve justice and a sound democracy. The great victory was then achieved in the October war and peace became a reality. As President Muhammad Husni Mubarak [long applause] truly said, there is no difference between the 23 July generation and the 15 May or the 6 October generations. They are all Egypt's righteous sons, loyal to its history and civilization and trustees of its rights and sanctities. They are all heroes in the annals of the immortals.

It was on the basis of this embodiment of Egypt's long history of continuous uprising and struggle, which derives its roots from the heritage, culture and traditions of this nation and which truly interprets the reality, hopes and ambitions of the society, that the NDP was established. Our party believes the real challenge facing national action is the achievement of the main objectives of establishing a sound democratic life, asserting the supremacy of the law and respecting the dignity of the individual.

Thus, it clearly became essential to reorganize political action in a manner making the existing democracy, which is based on the multiplicity of parties, the main pillar for building the democratic socialist society in order to truly express the aspirations of the masses. It also became essential for party activity to be based on continuous cohesion between the leaderships and the masses in order to pinpoint the problems of the masses and find solutions to them and seek the opinion of the masses on all important issues so the final decision will truly express the opinion of the popular base. This is the real guarantee for the stability and prosperity of democratic rule.

Our party, established as an expression of all these meanings, has to have formulas, principles and thoughts to depend on and objectives to aim for. Since our party expresses the opinion of its broad popular base, it had to be in a position to meet its needs and requirements and protect its interests and objectives. Therefore, it is only logical for the NDP to have a specific idea which will constitute the framework for action from which we must not deviate. The key point in this idea is the cause of the Egyptian individual and how to achieve his prosperity, freedom, security and progress, materially and morally, within the framework of social justice and equality.

Our party believes that democracy dictates the need for abiding by the principle of the supremacy of the law and independence of the judiciary, the principle of the multiplicity of parties and the principle of guaranteeing the freedom of the press, provided this does not prevent the divergence of viewpoints on some issues that might emerge as a result of the practical implementation of these principles. All this should not contravene the provisions of the constitution or the law.

Our party believes that the ownership and running of the national press must be the right of the people, provided the independence and mission of the press is guaranteed and those employed in it enjoy their rights and independence so the press will be the people's shield in protecting the principles of the 23 July revolution and the corrective movement, and an instrument for supervising public work and respecting the private lives of the citizens. However, the press must be objective in presenting the various issues and the different viewpoints on them.

Our party also stresses the importance of the media, both radio and television, in formulating public opinion and serving the interest of the people. In doing so, they must consider the religious values and traditions of the Egyptian people. These media must present public issues in such a manner as to project the different viewpoints no matter how divergent they are. Our party also stresses the right of the people to own the media, both radio and television.

Our party believes that both public and private ownership has a basic social duty to achieve the economic and social freedom of the individual. If the public sector has the basic social duty of steering the development process by observing certain social standards in carrying out various projects and by adopting certain prices, wages and employment policies to achieve the prosperity of society, private ownership also has a basic social duty, which is considered the best guarantee for the development and prosperity of society.

Private property possesses the instrument that provides the various parties with an incentive to exploit their savings in productive projects instead of wasting them in consumption and other unproductive fields. As we see, the presence of the private sector helps in creating more competition, which in its turn contributes to achieving more economic efficiency and helps in guiding the public sector and increasing its productivity. It also is an expression of political freedom.

Given that the public sector is the basic pillar for economic development, it cannot operate under the canopy of rigid regulations. One must guide the public sector and develop its management methods in such a manner that will guarantee better efficiency and its increased participation in the growth of the national income. The fact that the private and public sectors each have its own social function does not necessarily mean that each of them should be independent from the other. On the contrary, we believe that more opportunities for cooperation and integration will take place between them. This also does not mean that the relative bulk of each of the private and public sectors will be defined on rigid bases that are formulated in advance. It also does not mean the delineation of the domain of either the private or public sectors in accordance with rigid legal concepts. This delineation must take place in light of the nature of the productive activities that are to be carried out and in light of the stage of growth and the nature of the other economic variables that govern production. Besides the public and private sectors, the cooperative sector is of special importance because it has the very primary task of developing agriculture and dealing with the manifestation of the fragmentation of land ownership. This sector also has

a great role in the sphere of distribution of consumer products and the production of craftsmen.

Our party has its own concept of the issue of social justice. On this issue, our party's stand can be defined as follows: The production strategy must be based on fulfilling the masses' basic needs, foremost of which are food, adequate housing and vital utilities. Work opportunities must be available to all because work is a right, on condition that such work is productive and will contribute to generalizing prosperity, despite the fact that this right constitutes a burden on the shoulders of the production unit.

The taxation system must be an equitable and capable one under which every citizen pays his dues to society within the framework of the sovereignty of the law in such a manner that it will not disrupt stability and tranquility. Social justice means that economic activities must be distributed among the various provinces, particularly among the rural and urban areas. Public expenditures must be increased and basic services must be provided, foremost of them education, health and social security. Education in Egypt should be given more importance so it can assume the important role of forming the individual on the basis of equal opportunities for all and the increase of the individual's knowledge, capabilities and productiveness.

The party also believes in planning and in the need for this planning to be democratic. A plan must not be approved before it has undergone serious discussion by various sectors of the people. Planning must be comprehensive, covering the various aspects of human activities, whether they be economic, social, cultural or otherwise, with stress being applied to their inter-connectiveness and flexible implementation. Besides all this, planning must be on a regional basis to achieve more justice among the provinces, the rural and urban areas, because regional planning provides the sons of the provinces with the opportunity of participating in the formulation of decisions concerning their provinces, not to mention that regional planning will stimulate more personal effort to help in increasing the available potential for achieving our objectives of development and justice.

Mr President, members of the party. The NDP Government is your government. It is duty bound to thank you for the confidence you have placed in it and for the assistance and aid offered by the constitutional institutions of our great nation. The directives issued by these institutions have been a guide to us and a sincere adviser on defining the needs of the masses and understanding their aspirations and the means for achieving them. The government has issued these directives as the basis for its work and its program to which it has remained committed. The government has exerted and will exert all efforts to respond to them. Our party praises the great role that our valiant armed forces are assuming; these forces which liberated the land, restored dignity and raised high the banner of freedom. These forces are exerting their best efforts during peace and war for Egypt's sake. They are ready to protect the homeland and defend its sacred soil.

Our party also praised the great role that the public security department is assuming to consolidate the pillars of security and stability and to

protect the citizen's tranquility with the framework of the sovereignty of the law. [applause]

While the second NDP conference was held under the slogan "Egypt, Unity and Self-Discipline" we can say that this NDP conference is being held under the slogan "Egypt, Development and Production." At this stage, we are required to proceed toward broader horizons in the development spheres so that any creative effort can participate in shouldering the present responsibilities and laying down the basis for a better future.

We must pause here to look at what was accomplished during the past year and what we may expect to achieve in the future, with God's help. If your esteemed conference will allow me, I will now review some of these achievements and the future prospects, despite the fact that the under secretaries and the ministers will submit detailed reports on their ministries' activities to the committees of this conference. [out-of-turn excerpts omitted filed as JN201058 and JN201138]

Mr President, honorable members. The issue of development and production with all its economic, social and political dimensions poses a real challenge to Third World countries, including Egypt. The NDP has adopted this issue as its slogan during its present conference. This, in fact, shows our insistence to have this issue attract the attention of the entire society during the future stage. Proceeding from this, our primary concern was to have your conference discuss the general framework of the 5-year development plan for 1982-1987. We have done so to stress two basic points: first, that any serious attempt in the sphere of development and production must inevitably be based on a plan whose goals are clearly defined and which must be discussed within the framework of freedom and democracy; second, that the challenge represented by the issue of production, necessarily requires the government's commitment to the plans it formulates and adopts.

The plan which your conference will discuss contains the basic characteristics in which our party believes. The plan is also based on the following principles and objectives:

1. To continue to achieve higher growth rates that will surpass the present rates.
2. To allot importance to the sectors of agriculture and production by directing more investments toward them.
3. To consolidate the sectors of the infrastructure, particularly those suffering from overwork, such as the sectors which are dispensing medicines.
4. Develop human potential by giving importance to education at all levels and strengthening training in several fields.
5. To reduce the housing crisis, allot additional investment resources and change the housing pattern.

6. To begin offsetting the chronic deficit in the balance of payments to avoid an increase of debts to the outside world.

7. To give more importance to raising the level of productivity so that we may be able to raise wages without being subjected to additional pressures caused by inflation. To achieve this, we must review the management methods of the public sector to achieve more productivity.

8. To encourage local investment in addition to Arab and foreign investments and allocate foreign grants and loans in order to obtain more benefit from them.

Proceeding from the above principles and objectives, the most prominent objectives of the plan that are expected to be carried out in the next few years are the following:

To achieve an average gross national product growth of 8.2 percent a year with stress put on the production of consumer goods, on condition that the average growth of the sectors of the infrastructures is commensurate with material and social development, by basically depending on raising the level of performance as a means for increasing services and having these services perform better in accordance with our needs for such services.

In confirmation of the above, the plan aims at increasing the production of the consumer sectors, agriculture, industry and energy, by 9 percent annually as compared to 5.8 percent annually during the years 1977-1981. In the agricultural and industrial sectors, the plan aims at achieving an average growth rate that will reach 3.7 percent annually for agricultural sector and 9.8 percent annually for industry sector as compared to 2.3 percent and 6 percent respectively [during the 1977-81 period].

The allocation of investments in the 5-year development plan for 1982-1987 is being carried out in accordance with a basic principle of not allocating investments for the implementation of new projects before the completion of projects which are still underway. An exception is made for those projects which are of vital importance, which are dictated by strategic needs or required by the circumstances of cooperation and integration. The plan also adheres to the principle of not distributing investments to a large number of projects with little capital. It distributes investments to projects whose implementation will be completed as scheduled without delay to guarantee a stable average growth and the possibility of its increase.

In light of the above, the investments in the plan were set at 35.2 billion pounds for the 5 years; 26.8 billion for the public sector and 8.4 billion for the private sector. The plan has also set as target the increase of exports with an average rate of 8.3 percent annually and a decrease in the average increase in revenues by 4 percent annually which will reduce the current deficit in the balance of payments and lessen the need for foreign loans.

The 5-year development plan also is concerned with the issues of the labor force and provides for employment and training. It also provides for maximum productive job opportunities annually in an attempt to achieve a gradual elimination of unemployment and a balance between offer and demand. It also provides for training for reclassification purposes as an important means of achieving this balance, particularly in the short and long terms. The plan also provides for an improvement in the citizens' standard of living by increasing commodities for family consumption and services it provides free of charge to citizens in education, health care and others by 7.9 percent annually.

When your conference completes its discussion of the general framework of the 5-year development plan the NDP Government will submit it in a form that will be submitted by your conference to the legislative organs so that they may exercise their constitutional rights of discussing and adopting it in its final form.

The government took care that the 5-year development plan be based on surveys, projects and a visualization of the various economic organs at the regional and national level.

Because it remains committed to the principle of planning, the government took care that the development plan, whose implementation began in July, be in harmony with the major trends that seek to achieve an average growth rate increase of 8.5 percent and that are concerned with the agricultural and industrial sectors to have them reach an average growth rate of 9 percent and 2.8 percent respectively. The plan also seeks to develop the sector of productive services to reach an average growth rate of 6 percent. The increase in housing and social services will attain 8.5 percent because there is a desire to give these two sectors the importance they deserve.

Concerning investment services, 5.7 billion pounds have been allocated for the year 1982-1983 to the public and private sectors. The plan also has as target to reduce the deficit in the balance of payments by 450 million pounds and provide new job opportunities for 386,000 persons. These are sufficient to absorb the expected increase in the labor force for this year. The plan also took care to provide bigger investments for training and reclassification to meet the needs of developments.

If the formulation of the plan, the definition of its objectives and bases in a clear manner and its discussion in an atmosphere of freedom and democracy represent the first and primary step for dealing with production and development in a serious and scientific manner, then followup of the plan and ascertaining that it will be implemented in the most efficient manner is not less important. That is why the government has taken steps to boost the followup organs in the various ministries and the concerned institutions to enable them to prepare reports every 3 months on the course of the projects and to remedy the negative points that arise during the implementation stage.

Mr President, honorable members. The implementation of the plan and ensuring that its objectives will be achieved require coordination among the economic policies in the various sectors.

These policies must also be linked to the objectives and principles on which they are based to secure tranquility for the citizens and enable them to make sound economic decisions. That is why the NDP Government offers this as a basis on which economic policies in the other fields are formulated; these are financial, monetary, and international economic relations policies.

Basically, the financial policies aim at reducing the deficit from which the state budget suffers--this year's deficit reached 1.5 billion pounds--to achieve the objectives of the plan by overcoming the pressures caused by inflation, one of whose principles causes is the deficit in the general budget. The financial policies seek to reduce the deficit in the general budget without harming the volume of investment obligations included in it.

The allocation of investments in the 5-year development plan for 1982-1987 is being carried out in accordance with a basic principle of not allocating investments for the implementation of new projects before the completion of projects which are still underway. An exception is made for those projects which are of vital importance, which are dictated by strategic needs or required by the circumstances of cooperation and integration. The plan also adheres to the principle of not distributing investments to a large number of projects with little capital. It distributes investments to projects whose implementation will be completed as scheduled without delay to guarantee a stable average growth and the possibility of its increase.

In light of the above, the investments in the plan were set at 35.2 billion pounds for the 5 years; 26.8 billion for the public sector and 8.4 billion for the private sector. The plan has also set as target the increase of exports with an average rate of 8.3 percent annually and a decrease in the average increase in revenues by 4 percent annually which will reduce the current deficit in the balance of payments and lessen the need for foreign loans.

The 5-year development plan also is concerned with the issues of the labor force and provides for employment and training. It also provides for maximum productive job opportunities annually in an attempt to achieve a gradual elimination of unemployment and a balance between offer and demand. It also provides for training for reclassification purposes as an important means of achieving this balance, particularly in the short and long terms. The plan also provides for an improvement in the citizens' standard of living by increasing commodities for family consumption and services it provides free of charge to citizens in education, health care and others by 7.9 percent annually.

When your conference completes its discussion of the general framework of the 5-year development plan the NDP Government will submit it in a form that will be submitted by your conference to the legislative organs so that they may exercise their constitutional rights of discussing and adopting it in its final form.

The government took care that the 5-year development plan be based on surveys, projects and a visualization of the various economic organs at the regional and national level.

Because it remains committed to the principle of planning, the government took care that the development plan, whose implementation began in July, be in harmony with the major trends that seek to achieve an average growth rate increase of 8.5 percent and that are concerned with the agricultural and industrial sectors to have them reach an average growth rate of 9 percent and 2.8 percent respectively. The plan also seeks to develop the sector of productive services to reach an average growth rate of 6 percent. The increase in housing and social services will attain 8.5 percent because there is a desire to give these two sectors the importance they deserve.

Concerning investment services, 5.7 billion pounds have been allocated for the year 1982-1983 to the public and private sectors. The plan also has as target to reduce the deficit in the balance of payments by 450 million pounds and provide new job opportunities for 386,000 persons. These are sufficient to absorb the expected increase in the labor force for this year. The plan also took care to provide bigger investments for training and reclassification to meet the needs of developments.

If the formulation of the plan, the definition of its objectives and bases in a clear manner and its discussion in an atmosphere of freedom and democracy represent the first and primary step for dealing with production and development in a serious and scientific manner, then followup of the plan and ascertaining that it will be implemented in the most efficient manner is not less important. That is why the government has taken steps to boost the followup organs in the various ministries and the concerned institutions to enable them to prepare reports every 3 months on the course of the projects and to remedy the negative points that arise during the implementation stage.

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This is basically achieved through two channels: the first is by working for securing more revenues from the various sources by removing all obstacles that hamper the efficiency of the public sector by the surplus that takes place in favor of the state budget and by making the collection of taxes work more efficiently in addition to seeking new sources of revenues which will be linked to society's concept of social justice.

The second channel is by making government activities more active, steering them toward the service of the objectives of the plan such as development and securing social justice. The government seeks to direct more public expenditures to provide basic services to the masses, particularly education, health services and social security, to improve public utilities, particularly roads and electricity. The government also seeks to proceed with subsidizing basic commodities so that it can reach the consumers.

These are the objectives that the various financial policies seek to achieve and the government seeks to achieve a balance among these objectives within the framework of the plan.

The government's monetary policies aim at determining the quantity of the money, and the volume of expenditure in such a manner that will decrease the pressures caused by inflation and check price increases. This will make available more resources and savings for investments in the sectors that are of major importance in accordance with the 5-year development plan, foremost of which are the agricultural, industrial, and the energy sector in addition to channeling more of these resources with easy terms to some other vital sectors, especially the export sector.

The banking sector plays an important role in achieving the objectives of the monetary policies. Therefore, the government is concerned about the stability and prosperity of this sector. It will assist this sector in carrying out government monetary policies such as curbing increases in prices, including increases in the prices of foreign currencies, attracting more savings and channeling more resources toward investment.

Out of a desire to encourage saving, the government has increased the rate of interest on deposits. It also (?reduced) the rate of interest on loans granted to various economic activities to encourage the agricultural and industrial sectors to operate in line with the general objectives of the 5-year plan.

Policies of international economic relations: the fields of international economic relations and the policies governing them are diverse, foremost of the policies governing these relations is the import-export policy. One of the main objectives of the 5-year plan is to reduce the deficit in the balance of payments. To achieve this objective, the government will work hard toward increasing exports. The government is aware of the fact that our export potentials are linked with the development and growth of the industrial sector as well as with the adoption of several measures such as: revising the rules and regulations governing exports and removing all bureaucratic obstacles hampering the increase of exports, reducing imports, providing loans at easy terms to encourage exporters and establishing special financial firms for this sector, establishing a strong union of exporters, encouraging all firms and free zones to increase exports, improving and increasing the efficiency of trade missions so as to be able to find more markets for Egyptian commodities.

Imports play a major role in securing the many intermediary and capital goods needed by the productive economic sectors in the production of several basic and essential commodities for the livelihood of the masses of the people. While the 5-year plan has approved an increase in imports amounting to about 4 percent annually, our import policy is geared toward decreasing the deficit in the balance of payments by encouraging local industries. Thus, the 5-year plan has made it a point that the percentage of the increase in imports is less than the percentile of the increase in exports.

The import policy tended to encourage basic commodities which are essential to the masses and intermediary and capital goods which are essential to production, rather than luxury goods or those commodities which are produced locally. The government is determined to remove all obstacles, especially bureaucratic ones, and to continue to review the lists of imported commodities so as to achieve the objectives of our import policy.

Investment policy: the open-door policy is a stable policy and there is no going back on it. Therefore, the government will continue to encourage investments, both from local and foreign sources. There are many opportunities for local and foreign investors to participate in successful investment projects in Egypt. The government will exert further efforts to change work procedures in this vital sector so as to open the wider vistas and scopes needed to achieve the interests of the national economy and the investors, the government has taken all the necessary measures to promulgate the new companies law. The government will also examine investors' complaints and remove any obstacles so investments will flow in smoothly and easily to contribute toward achieving the development objectives.

International economic cooperation: out of a desire to increase the averages of investment and national income, the government has sought loans from different sources to augment local investment resources, the government will make best use of these loans by channeling into those sectors, which greatly contribute to economic production and which have established their ability to repay these loans.

Mr President, honorable members. To conclude this review of the 5-year plan and the pertinent policies, I would like to stress four points which are of great importance in achieving the conference's slogan of development and production.

The first point: the 5-year plan and its pertinent policies are considered a major step to achieve self-reliance, essentially by increasing investments and growth averages, increasing exports and reducing imports, and depending less on loans in financing projects.

The second point: the most serious thing that can happen is for a nation to live beyond its means. A nation which truly seeks progress and justice, must work hard, produce and involve everyone in production and the adoption of decisions.

The third point: we must stress the social dimension of economic development and the economic policies, including the open-door policy. This social

dimension is essential for achieving political and economic stability, which, in turn, is an essential precondition for the prosperity of the private sector.

The fourth point: the nature of development is such that resources must increase with time so as to enable the government to gradually meet more and more of the public needs. We cannot immediately meet all the public needs. But the public has the right to stress that development must be in the interest of everyone and that there is a determination to carry out the development within a clear ideological framework and a specific plan with a definite timetable and that there are continuous achievements confirming that all is proceeding well on the path of progress.

Finally, our party, in its third congress, greets the party president, the president of the republic [applause], who is piloting the ship in the best manner possible and who is working for the people's prosperity with all sincerity, love and loyalty and who is devoting all his efforts to Egypt, because he is a true patriot who loves his country and who devotes all his life. He is President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, peace be upon you.

CSO: 4500/307

NPUGP STATEMENT ON U.S. INITIATIVE

PM211415 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 15 Sep 82 p 2

[Statement issued by the general secretariat of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party (NPUGP) after its meeting on 6 September, presumably in Cairo]

[Text] 1. The United States is still using the policy of terrorism and incitement in an attempt to bring our Arab homeland under its full control and hegemony. The United States participated fully in the planning of Israel's armed invasion of Lebanon. It supplied Israel with the most sophisticated weapons of destruction and murder and gave it a free hand in the most abominable genocide and mass murder. The aim was to liquidate the Palestine question once and for all by completely destroying the PLO and as many as possible of the Palestinian people, and by isolating the Lebanese national movement and setting up a lackey government in Lebanon.

The legendary steadfastness and relentless struggle of the PLO and the Lebanese national movement have partly foiled the U.S. plan. Rather than liquidate the Palestinian question, Israel's bestiality has, thanks to the steadfastness of the Palestinians, imposed the Palestinian cause on the conscience of the world and the American public in particular. The PLO has emerged as the real leader of the heroic strugglers fighting for the liberation of people who are suffering under the yoke of Israeli imperialism, and for their right to self-determination. As a result of the Palestinian resistance all talk about the so-called "Palestinian terrorists" disappeared, and the Palestinians emerged as heroic fighters who stood up to the American-Israeli war machine.

Israel's savagery was exposed but the United States still insisted on protecting Israel from international condemnation by casting its veto. It also insisted that the Palestinian fighters must leave Beirut before it made any move to end the Israeli presence in Lebanon or to solve the Palestinian problem, which is at the root of the conflict. This insistence came after the Israeli war machine failed to storm Beirut and bring the resistance to its knees,

Now that the United States has been forced to address the Palestinian question for the first time, as a result of the Palestinian steadfastness, it is trying

to appear anxious to promote comprehensive peace in the region and offer a plan for the settlement of the Palestinian question, and is claiming to be a neutral party not favoring one side at the expense of the other. Meanwhile, Israel continues to tighten its grip on Lebanon and prolong its occupation and is threatening to launch a new round aimed at liquidating the Palestinian and Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon.

The United States is assuming that the Israeli threats on one hand and the talk about a peaceful settlement on the other will compel the Arabs, including the Palestinians, to accept a settlement on terms that do not meet their minimum legitimate aspirations, and bring the region under permanent U.S.-Israeli control.

2. The United States rushed to announce its initiative with two main objectives in mind. The first was to minimize the negative repercussions to the Arab inaction and collusion and thus restabilize all the present Arab regimes whose inadequacy and inability to confront the Israeli aggression have been exposed and who have been compelled to submit to Israeli control of the region. The second objective was announcement of the initiative before the Arab summit conference in Fes to prevent any possibility, however slim, of agreement on a minimum degree of Arab solidarity and on a unified Arab stand under pressure from an Arab people no longer willing to tolerate any more humiliation and considering the United States, which has connived with Israel, to be a major enemy. The United States wants to create differences among the Arab states and strengthen what it calls the Arab moderates to pave the way for a humiliating and unjust settlement.

3. The achievement of these objectives made it necessary for the U.S. administration to acknowledge that the Palestinian question is not just a question of refugees and to reaffirm that it was against the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza and that the status of Jerusalem should be determined through negotiation.

However, the United States takes back with one hand what it gives with the other in the way of response to Arab demands. While announcing his conviction that the Palestinian question is not a question of refugees and that legitimate Palestinian rights should be taken into consideration, the U.S. president, in the same declaration, insists that, of all the peoples of the world, the Palestinian people have no right to self-determination and no right to have their own state or freedom to choose their system of government or decide whether or not they want to have links with any particular state. The United States has in advance named the only possible option open to the Palestinians if they want to see an end to the Israeli occupation. That option is autonomy within the framework of the Jordanian state.

Furthermore, in the Reagan initiative the Palestinian people are only those living in the West Bank and Gaza. The U.S. president and his administration ignore the millions of Palestinians living outside the occupied territories, and ignore the right of these people to repatriation or compensation.

Although he leaves the status of Jerusalem open to negotiation, he declares in advance that it should remain united. He thus rules out the return of Arab sovereignty to the Arab part of Jerusalem.

While not supporting the annexation of the West Bank and Gaza to Israel, the United States agrees to border adjustments to guarantee Israel's security.

4. The U.S. initiative stems mainly from the idea of exchanging peace for territory in accordance with Israel's concept of peace, which means full recognition of Israel and normalization of relations with it. It imposes restrictions on the national sovereignty of the returned territories to safeguard the security of Israel, which is armed to the teeth. Israel and the United States want to dictate fully Israel's concept of peace but do not want to give up the Arab territories occupied in 1967, and they do not want these territories to have complete sovereignty. Reagan makes any possible settlement conditional on not endangering Israel's security in any way, but offers no such guarantee for the security of the Arab people who have been and still are the target of Israeli aggression.

5. The United States continues to ignore the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people. It has called on Jordan and other Arab states to join the so-called peace process, ignoring the fact that the PLO has baptized its leadership of the Palestinian people with blood spilled in Lebanon and with the total support of the Palestinian people and the effective support of the Arab peoples for the PLO as a pioneering force in the Arab struggle for freedom and independence.

6. In addition to ignoring the legitimate representatives of the Palestinian people, the United States rules out any role for the United Nations and the international community in general, including the EEC, the Soviet Union and the socialist camp, in any settlement. It wants to redraw the map of the Middle East singlehanded according to its own whims and interests. Under the claim that it is the only state capable of influencing Israel, the United States wants to impose full U.S. control of the region and to be the judge and the plaintiff at the same time.

7. The Likud Government, whose policy is based on annexing Palestinian territory, has rejected the U.S. initiative even though the latter does not recognize Arab rights. Begin considers any acceptance of the initiative to be "a betrayal of Israel." The Israeli Government quickly announced plans to build new settlements in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This Israeli rejection is being used by certain Arab circles to beautify the ugly face of the United States on the one hand and to preach confronting Israel with the U.S. sword on the other. Such claims overlook the U.S.-Israeli common interests and the truth about U.S.-Israeli joint planning, which was quite obvious during Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

There is talk about differences within the Zionist movement itself. One faction is opposed to Likud's policy of annexing the occupied territory for fear of the effects this might have on the character and racial purity

of the Jewish state. In fact, the U.S. plan adopts one of the old Zionist solutions known as the Allon Plan, which was frequently rejected by the Arabs.

Recent events in our Arab region have undoubtedly uncovered the truth about the U.S. role and Israel's role in the U.S. plan for the control of and hegemony over the region, and for using Israel's army, heavily equipped with U.S. arms, as the U.S. big stick for aggression and terror against the Arabs and any part of their territory.

8. Despite Begin's outright rejection of the new U.S. initiative, Israel once again announced its readiness to negotiate, so as to lay for any Arab government willing to negotiate with it a trap similar to the one it laid for As-Sadat when he visited Jerusalem. Israel then announced its readiness to negotiate without accepting any of the Arabs' minimum demands, as a result of which the negotiations became a means of bringing pressure on Egypt to make concessions out of fear that the negotiations would fail.

9. Preoccupation with the Palestinian problem should not blind us to other dangers from which the U.S. initiative seems to have come to distract us. Israeli occupation of Lebanon is continuing, and there seems to be no willingness to withdraw the occupation armies, which are stepping up their preparations for a new confrontation with the Palestinians and the Syrians in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon and which are being used as a means of bargaining and pressure in order to impose the Israeli will on Lebanon and take it completely out of the Arab fold or to slice 50 km off it beginning from the Israeli borders, as Sharon said in a recent speech.

10. The dangers menacing the Arab homeland will continue and increase unless the Arab nationalist movement is able to close its ranks and resolutely struggle in order to impose the Arab masses' will on the defeatist Arab regimes, so that our Arab nation uses the means of pressure available to it, first, in order to check the continuing deterioration in the Arab situation and second, in order to liberate Arab land and liquidate every foreign domination on any part of our Arab homeland.

11. The U.S. admission that the Palestinians are a people and not merely refugees and its objection to the Zionist policy of annexation is not a favor by Washington after the brutal use of military force or a position taken out of consideration for friendship with certain Arab regimes, nor is it a return to the right path after injustice and aggression. It is rather the fruit of the splendid Palestinian steadfastness which won the heart of the Arab masses from the Atlantic to the Gulf and which has imposed the Palestinian problem on a world opinion aroused by Israel's Nazi methods. This steadfastness has proved beyond any doubt the role of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and as the leadership capable of both military and political struggle. Therefore the PLO is the only and principal partner that should be dealt with. Those who let it down during its heroic fighting have no right to speak on behalf of the Palestinian people or to pressure it on the pretext of moderation. Arab governments are called upon to support the PLO's stand unconditionally and to be prepared for the day

when Israel strikes at this country or that, in view of the general Arab inability in self-defense.

12. It was the PLO that fought and stood fast in Beirut: it has sacrificed blood and lives in defense of the Palestinian cause and Arab honor at a time when the Arab countries failed to do anything except issue rhetorical statements and beg the United States to stop its and Israel's aggression against the heroic fighters standing fast in Beirut. It is the fighters alone who have the right to determine the way to deal with the U.S. initiative, without pressure from the Arab governments. The Palestinian people's struggle under the PLO's leadership will continue to enjoy the support of all world and Arab nationalist forces.

CSO: 4500/307

IRANIAN INTERIOR MINISTER ON IRAQ, COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES

LD192044 TEHRAN Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] According to the central news unit, Mr Nateq-nuri, the interior minister, gave a news conference, attended by domestic and foreign journalists, at the central committee offices and answered their questions.

First, the interior minister said: The defeated enemies of the Islamic revolution, who have been defeated on all fronts, have resorted to a series of feeble and [word indistinct] steps. On the front, when Saddam does not have the strength to resist, he shells our cities and residential areas. In Kordestan, counterrevolutionary groups, who do not have the strength to [word indistinct], are forced to place mines on roads at night and cause the death of villagers and civilians. Also in towns where safehouses are discovered, and they are exposed, they are forced to resort to criminal and insane measures--contrary to their false slogans in support of the people--and assassinate these same people. This action--assassinating an old vender or a brother or sister who has attended Friday prayers--shows that they have lost their hope in the (?people).

He added: If any political group had the least chance of success, it would not so stupidly (?ruin everything). [passage indistinct]

Regarding the activities of the committees during the past week and the number of arrests made, he said: Among those arrested, were those responsible for the recent assassinations of (Hezbollahis), a number of torturers and high-ranking members of the groups were also arrested. That is why the number of assassinations has decreased. [passage indistinct]

CSO: 4640/486

'JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI' ON TEHRAN CLASHES

GF211716 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 12 Sep 82 p 2

[Text] Six hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] were killed and four arrested during seven street clashes and the discovery of two team "nests" by the district 10 guards corps.

The public relations department spokesman of the District 10 revolution guards revealed the details of the incident in an exclusive interview with our correspondent. He said: three hypocrites intended to kill a brother guard and use a Honda 125 motorcycle [to make a getaway], but two of them were killed and one was wounded and later arrested in a clash with the district revolution guards. In another incident, one hypocrite was killed and one was arrested by the District 10 revolution guards when they tried to force their way into a house belonging to a prominent government official.

The spokesman added: Two hypocrites forcibly entered a grocery store on Musavi Avenue with the intention of killing the owner, who was not present in the shop, and they shot at his son. The Hezbollahis, hearing the shots, hastened to the store and arrested one. The other fled. Two Colts and one grenade were recovered from the arrested hypocrite.

Another similar incident took place on Rezvani Avenue when two hypocrites, in an attempted murder, wounded a brother army officer. One hypocrite was captured, while the other fled. Two Colts and one grenade were recovered from the arrested hypocrite.

According to the public relations officer of District 10, the mobilization corps brothers succeeded in killing a hypocrite, whose companion fled, in a clash on one of the main avenues of Tehran. According to the same spokesman, the brother guards of the District 10 coups in Karaj killed 2 hypocrites in operations during which two teamhouses were discovered and a large amount of arms, ammunition and documents were seized.

CSO: 4640/486

IRANIAN PAPER ON ARREST OF MINIGROUP IN KHUZESTAN

GF220528 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Sep 82 p 14

[By IRNA reporter]

[Text] Ahvaz--Another American atheist minigroup was shattered in Khuzestan and its members were investigated and arrested.

According to the IRNA report from Ahvaz, the Islamic Revolution Guards of Khuzestan, with the help of the martyr-producing and always-on-the-scene "nation" and in coordination with the revolution prosecutor, the revolutionary Peykar minigroup was uncovered and destroyed. The revolutionary Peykar minigroup broke from the American Peykar organization a while ago and then broke once again from the Peykar revolutionary minigroup. Its goal was to create a new and war-waging organization in Ahvaz and Khuzestan in particular. The names of the members of this minigroup who were arrested are as follows:

1. Yusef Hamidi, alias Jalil, the chief of the revolutionary Peykar minigroup and one of the former chiefs of the Peykar organization in Khuzestan.
2. Mehdi Nakhli-Mamal, alias Jalal, the communications chief of the minigroup.
3. Mas'ud Jarrah, alias Hoseyn, the person in charge of a cell.
4. Kazem Nesari, alias Na'im and Naser, one of the people in charge of a cell.
5. Kazem 'Abedi Hamzeh, alias Jasem and Karim.
6. Sadroldin Hashemizadeh, alias Bahrn.
7. Sirus Afshin, alias Bahman.
8. Mansur Baharluti, alias Nader.
9. Khashayar Asef, alias Reza.
10. Mohamad Reza Heydarshenas, alias Mohsen and Heydar.
11. 'Abdulzahra 'Abbadi.

CSO: 4640/486

IRAN

MUSAVI ENDS VISIT TO HORMOZGAN

GF180742 TEHRAN Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Text] Prime Minister Mirhoseyn Musavi ended his visit to the city of Hormozgan and returned to Tehran yesterday afternoon. In an interview with our reporter after his arrival about the results of his trip to the city of Hormozgan, he said: This trip was made according to the advice of the Imam of the nation on taking care of the zones that are deprived the most. We managed to see important problems in the city firsthand. We hope to be able with the help of God and other members of the cabinet to bring about big changes to this city as soon as possible.

Concerning the cabinet's position toward such deprived places--the prime minister said: As I have said before we have given some credits to these deprived areas and the cabinet is giving priority attention to the problems of these cities. For each deprived city three ministers have been chosen to investigate the problems and report to the cabinet. This plan has worked very well to date. Not only has this part of our Islamic country been taken care of very badly by the former regime but also the Strait of Hormoz and the islands around it are strategically very important for us.

Commenting on the loyalty and devotion of the personnel for the air force headquarters and the naval forces at Bandar 'Abbas, he said: In my visit to the naval forces at Bandar 'Abbas I felt that all of our naval fighters are completely alert and our ship destroyers are ready to stop any kind of treacherous movement in the zone. We should give more attention to this force. The prime minister resisted taking any quick steps to solve the problems of the people in these zones by pointing to the weaknesses of these deprived people despite their devoted interest to the Islamic revolution. He said: There are many laws that do not let us make quick moves at this point. He hoped that in the future this problem will be solved as soon as possible.

CSO: 4640/486

IRAN

CLANDESTINE RADIO REPORTS 200 GUARDS KILLED IN TEHRAN IN 10 DAYS

GF181958 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
18 Sep 82

[Text] During the past 10 days over 200 guards have been annihilated in clashes with armed strugglers. Our correspondent, quoting informed sources, reported: During the past 10 days over 200 guards were killed in Tehran alone during armed operations by strugglers in the implementation of the new phase of resistance which is aimed at crushing the suppressive guards and the regime's agents of suffocation. The volume of operations exceeded 25 attacks against guards in 1 day.

Our correspondent adds: The building housing the office of Sharifi, Khomeyni's representative and Rasht's Friday Imam, was attacked by the resistance groups with bombs and machineguns. Four of his guards were killed and the building was severely damaged. Sharifi was recently appointed by Khomeyni to replace Ehsanbaksh, Rast's former Friday Imam who was severely wounded in an attack by the armed strugglers. Sharifi was not injured in the recent attack by the resistance groups.

The armed strugglers were able to return to their bases without suffering any casualties during this attack.

CSO: 4640/486

IRAN

IRAN CLANDESTINE BROADCASTS ANTIREGIME COMMUNIQUE

GF211727 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Communique issued by the National Front of Iran in Persian on 21 Sep 82]

[Text] The Islamic regime is dragging our youths to the slaughterhouse of war with massive fabrications promising the key to heaven. Compatriots, the war in the name of exporting the revolution has resulted in approximately 100,000 persons being killed and 200,000 wounded. And to date, not one clergyman has ventured near the sacred battlefronts.

Now after 2 years of war and bloodshed, people are asking themselves: For which revolution are we fighting? A revolution which kills its founders and offspring and from which the guards these days are fleeing out of patriotism and due to the dictates of their conscience? A revolution in which its closest pawns, penitent regarding their own past, are waiting for an announcement of a general amnesty?

Compatriots, if the Khomeyni regime were a regime for the service of the people, it would have halted the fratricidal war after obtaining the war reparations and it would have embarked on a program of reconstruction and renovation of cities and war-stricken villages of Khuzestan Province, Kermanshah, Hamedan, Kordestan, Ilam and all other areas.

The people know that the authorities of the regime are preparing an autumn offensive for an imaginary victory in order to satiate their powerlust by pushing our noble and peaceful people into (?battle). As of this day, people in all the cities and villages have decided to refrain from sending the young people to the slaughterhouse of war. The Iranian nation knows that power and strength lies in unity and solidarity which can end the life of the present regime and replace it with the people's free regime.

Compatriots, resistance and fortitude in not sending the young to war is a national and humane duty which should be performed in a united and manly way.

[Signed] The National Front of Iran

CSO; 4640/486

IRAN

IRAN CLANDESTINE REPORTS ON ARREST OF CHILDREN

GF201817 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT
20 Sep 82

[Text] According to our correspondent in Paris, the office of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization, in a communique, declared that the organization has requested the international human rights organizations to investigate the fates of eight children who have been arrested by the revolution guards and are either being held in prison or have been sent to some unknown place, and take steps to save them.

The office of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization in Paris has reported that these children range in age from 1-11 years. These children were arrested after a raid by the guards on the houses of the Mojahedin members. Most of the children lost their parents in the attack. The Mojahedin-e Khalq organization has put the identities of these children at the disposal of the international human rights agencies so that they may contact the officials of the Islamic Republic to learn their fates. The office of the Mojahedin-e Khalq organization has reported the names of these children as follows: Sa'id Zahedi; A'ida Esma'illian; Sa'id Mosanna; Cima Lavidi; Fatemah Fatehpur, 1 year old; Mohamed 'ali Manani, 11 years old; Khalili Bazargan and (Some'yeh Tarvari).

CSO: 4640/486

HAHSEMI-RAFSANJANI ADDRESSES RADIO, TV JOURNALISTS

LD221956 TEHRAN Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] According to a central news unit report, the directors of the provincial centers of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who are in Tehran to attend a seminar which will last a few days, held talks this afternoon with Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly. During the meeting, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, addressing those present, said: Because of the sensitive nature of your work you realize full well what is going on in the realm as you are wielding an immense lever in the country. The Imam graciously said: The Voice and Vision is tantamount to a university. And this is indeed the best description. You should endeavor to make the Voice and Vision fully popular and nowhere do we need you more than in the Voice and Vision. The purest forces should be concentrated in the Voice and Vision.

In connection with war week, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: Through the Voice and Vision you should discuss all the issues of the war with the people. After the conquest of Khorramshahr, the reactionary Arab regimes and Iraq itself have attempted to portray Iraq as peace-seeking and Iran as war-mongering. They continue with their endeavors to depict Iran as posing a danger to the region and to frighten the peoples of Iran. An effort should be made to neutralize this propaganda and fear.

In connection with the vanguard role of the Islamic Republic of Iran in exposing the plots being carried out against Muslims of the region, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: The ideas which have been put forward by the Islamic Republic of Iran for the past 2 or 3 months in connection with the problems of Lebanon are now being accepted by the Palestinians.

CSO: 4640/486

IRANIAN PAPER REPORTS HANGING OF 'HYPOCRITES'

GF210836 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 28 Aug 82 p 2

[Text] Babol--The KEYHAN correspondent has reported that yesterday following the end of the Friday prayers which was held in the technical college of this city, five members of the military cadre of Ashraf Dehqan and the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khaleq] were hanged after the reading of the charges against them in the presence of thousands of those who had attended the prayers and chanted "death to the hypocrites."

The names of those executed were:

1. Hassan Shirafkan Nejad, charged with participating in clashes in Babol, providing houses for the organization, maintaining liaison with jungle groups, and taking part in armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran.
2. Ramazan'ali Farajpur, son of Abdulmanaf, alias Babak, charged with being a member of the military cadre, acting as a courier within various provinces, recruiting and organizing forces that were dispatched to the forest, collecting financial assistance, and organizing plots against the Islamic Republic of Iran.
3. Havad Owladi, son of Khangah, alias Mehrzad (Mehrrjouyan), charged with collecting and recruiting forces that were dispatched to the forest, being a member of the military cadre, organizing the activities of communal houses, participating in military actions, collecting secret documents for the organization, collecting financial assistance, and taking part in armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran.
4. Seyyed Esma'il Purmusavi, son of Ebrahim, charged with being a member of the military cadre, taking part in the armed clashes in the city, providing houses and facilities for the hypocrites' organization, providing explosives, and participating in armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran.
5. Mohamad Yusofpur, son of Mohamad Reza, charged with being a member of the Ashraf Dehqan group, taking part in the clashes of the city, possessing of weapons and explosives for the organization and, participating in armed uprising against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

CSO: 4640/486

IRANIAN TERRORISTS EXECUTED IN BOJNURD

GF211807 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 7 Sep 82 p 13

[Text] On the order of the Bojnurd Islamic Revolution Court and following the approval of the Supreme Islamic Revolution Court, 11 elements of American minigroups were executed in Bojnurd for attempts to overthrow the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, assassinations, terrorism and arson. Following is the list of their names and crimes:

1. Shahram Shahabadi, alias Sharif, son of 'Ataollah, was accused of being the deputy for the entire hypocrite organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] in Bojnurd, the commanding and designing several assassinations of Hezbollahi individuals.
2. J'afar Mohammadian, alias Mansur and Bahman Ebrahimi, son of Gholam'ali, citizen of Quchan, was accused of being commander of operations, participating in assassinations and living in communal houses.
3. Seyyed Mahmud (Namani), alias Mehdi the Beard, son of 'Ali Akbar, citizen of Imamshahr, resident in Sabzevar, was accused of being in charge of the financial affairs of the hypocrites, leading armed demonstrations, being in charge of several military teams, planning the attack against the building housing the Islamic revolution prosecutor's office in Bojnurd and stealing the car of a Hezbollahi.
4. Mahmud Seraj Akbari, son of 'Ali, citizen and resident of Bojnurd, was accused of planning the assassination of a Hezbollahi individual, transporting terrorists in his car and disguising the face of one of the terrorists in his house.
5. Seyyed Ehsan Badakhshan, son of 'Ali, resident and citizen of Bojnurd, was accused of gathering financial help for the hypocrites during the military phase and teaching the construction of Molotov cocktails.
6. J'afar Peykani, son of Mohammad Reza, was accused of giving a great deal of financial aid to the hypocrite organization, hiding the commanders of assassination operations in his house and giving arms and ammunition to the hypocrites for guerrilla and assassination operations.

7. Gholamreza Mohammadpur, alias 'Abdollah, son of Mohammad Reza, was accused of activities in the athiest Marxist Tufan party, hiding party arms and ammunition in his house, attempting to resume activities during internment and attempting to lead the prisoners astray.

8. Yadollah Pahlevan, alias Behruzi, son of Barat, was accused of active participation in the Marxist Tufan party, giving military training to the members of this party, making grenades and hiding arms and ammunition in his house.

9. Bahram Razi, son of Yusef, was accused of active participation in the Marxist Tufan party, living in communal houses, membership in the military committee of Tufan party and participation in establishing the organization in the prison.

10. Reza Keyfani, son of 'Abdolhamid, alias Reza the Funnel, was accused of gathering help for the hypocrites and participation in the coordination and implementation council of the hypocrites in Bojnurd, Mashmad and Sabzevar.

11. Shahla Omidvar, daughter of Qodratollah, alias Mariam, was accused of continuous activity to attract new members to the hypocrites in the military phase, formation of military teams for the recognition of Hezbollahi individuals, revolutionary organizations and headquarters in order to assassinate, burn or destroy, construction of [Molotov] cocktails, leading the armed demonstration in Bojnurd and an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate a Hezbollahi brother and burning his shop.

CSO: 4640/486

IRANIAN GENDARMERIE HEAD ON ORGANIZATION'S PERFORMANCE

LD212338 Tehran IRNA in English 2003 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, 21 Sep (IRNA)--The commander of Iran's gendarmerie, Colonel (Ali Kuchakzadeh), said in an interview with IRNA Here today that despite the many impediments the gendarmerie had rebuilt itself after the culmination of the Islamic revolution in Iran.

He said for many reasons the personnel of the gendarmerie were all too much discriminated against during the past regime and that the policymakers of the past regime always provoked bad blood and ill feeling between the rank and file members of the gendarmerie parincipally with the idea of promoting mutual suspicion and a certain degree of division among themselves. He also said that despite the unhealthy atmosphere which had somehow marred the role of the gendarmerie in the past, it soon developed into its proper shape and immediately after the eruption of the imposed war, assumed the task of defending the country along with other Iranian combatants.

Col (Kuchakzadeh) further noted that the high number of martyrs among the personnel of gendarmerie had proved the self-sacrificing [words indistinct] of this branch of the armed forces.

Since the inception of the Iran-Iraq war, its frontiersmen in collaboration with its narcotics control officers have confiscated about 19 tons of narcotics from traffickers and have arrested 5,884 people on charges of possession of narcotics.

This total figure repreents about 16.5 tons of opium, 280 kilogrammes of heroin, and about 1,600 kilogrammes of hash. During the period they have also seized from smugglers as much as 56,670 kilogrammes of gold, as many as 10,836 radio-television sets and video-sets, about 21 million packs of cigarettes, about four million of fabrics, and 180,000 watches.

They have also arrested 23,326 persons on charges of engagement in illegal import-export activities.

CSO: 4600/773

IRANIAN BANK OFFICIAL SEES ECONOMY IN GOOD SHAPE

LD212314 Tehran IRNA in English 1945 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, 21 Sep (IRNA)--The Governor of the Bank Markazi (Central Bank) of Iran Dr Mohsen Nurbakhsh said here today that the volume of Iran's foreign exchange had not in the least dwindled ever since the outbreak of the war: and that during the past two years the Iranian banks were even capable of making investments abroad.

He said deposits in the banks of Iran showed a substantial increase as compared with the previous years, and that the situation was a vivid proof of the people's trust in the banking system and the healthy economy of their country.

He noted also that due to the government's deflationary policies, the inflation rate had dropped to 15.2 percent during the first three months of the current Iranian year (21 March through 21 June 1982) from a high of 27.7 percent during the respective period of the past year.

The governor of the Central Bank of Iran said that in order to help farmers in the war-stricken areas, the commercial banks would provide a total of one billion rials to the agricultural bank in order that it might be allocated for interest-free loans to farmers in the war-stricken areas of the [words indistinct].

He also noted that to mark the "War Week" and also to contribute to the national economy, all banks throughout the country would remain open from morning until 1700 hours (3.5 hours over and above their normal working hours) on the fourth day of the war week during which they will provide normal services and will also accept applications for interest-free government bonds for defraying reconstruction costs in the war-stricken towns and cities.

Iran's internal economy has shown marked improvement this year despite the continuing war with Iraq.

The country's investments in reconstruction and development projects during the first three months of the current Iranian year shows an increase of about 57 percent as compared to the corresponding period of the last year.

Meanwhile, Iran's tax revenues also show a substantial increase despite the closure of sources of private companies whose executives fled the country during or immediately after the culmination of the Islamic revolution.

The country's oil exports too, with an increase of about 44 percent, have hit the target sale as anticipated in the annual budget.

This has been happening here despite the U.S. freezing of Iran's assets, and its many hostile measures for shrinking the country's foreign exchange returns on its oil sale.

CSO: 4600/773

'KYODO' INTERVIEWS IRANIAN AMBASSADOR GOVAHI

OW211325 Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Text] Tokyo, 21 Sep (KYODO)--Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, the spiritual and political leader of Iran, is "a multi-dimensional personality...the kind of person that in the history of man it takes centuries to find another." Iran's ambassador to Japan, 'Adbol Rahim Govahi said Tuesday.

"There is no need to worry about a successor--no one can replace him," Govahi said, noting that the ayatollah enjoyed better health than most men of his advanced years.

Govahi was speaking in an interview with KYODO news service marking the second anniversary--22 September--of the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war.

He said Iran wanted peace, but that this was impossible until Iraq met Iran's three conditions: withdrawal from Iranian territory, payment of reparations and acknowledgment internationally of Iraq's responsibility for the war.

Despite some progress toward the Iranian position, he said, Iran's basic conditions had not yet been met.

"In the areas where the Iraqi's have withdrawn, it was because the Iranian's drove them back," Govahi said. He said the most strategically important heights were still in Iraqi hands and despite their retreat behind their borders in the south, the Iraqi's were shelling Iranian cities daily with long-range artillery.

The youthful, soft-spoken ambassador said Iran was holding back to allow peace mediators the chance to seek a negotiated settlement.

But if peace efforts failed, he said Iran would go "as far as we have to, even to Baghdad if necessary" to stop the Iraqi attacks.

In contrast with the support of countries like France and the Arab nations for the Iraqi's, Govahi said, "Iran has not received a single dollar in help."

However he said despite severe cutbacks in development projects, the Islamic government had provided more roads, electricity and telephone links in Iran than in the entire course of the deposed shah's regime.

Govahi said he was confident that the huge Bandar Khomeyni joint Iran-Japan petrochemical project, stalled by the Islamic revolution and the outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war, would be resumed.

A team of Japanese negotiators is now in Tehran seeking to break a deadlock with Iranian officials on financing for the multi-billion dollar project.

"Financially we are doing our best to see that there are no problems on the Iranian side," Govahi said. "There is no sense for either side to push for a project that is not economically feasible."

He said though immediate resumption was impossible with a war in progress, talks should begin now because it would take five or six months to get the project started again.

"I think that's the maximum time this war will continue--we'll not let it continue (longer)," Govahi said.

CSO: 4600/773

ONGOING AUTONOMY STRUGGLE OF KURDS REVIEWED

Paris LE MONDE in French 13, 14 Aug 82

[Article by Jean Bertolino: "The Long Struggle of the Kurds in Iran"]

[13 Aug 82 p 7]

[Text] I. An Enlightened Resistance

In order to drive the Iraqis out of their country, the Iranians did not hesitate to send forward, with the shout "Allah Akbar" (God is great), tens of thousands of poorly armed and poorly trained children against the opposing positions. They fell riddled with bullets and torn apart by explosions on the battlefield, but they could not be stopped.

Behind them, the Iranian Army with its tanks, halftracks and infantry rushed into the gaps that they had made by their sacrifice. The military professionals converted the wild charge of all these adolescents into a military victory. Then, the Iranians crossed the border feeling certain that they would totally wipe out the Iraqi Army and bring down the Saddam Husayn regime. Yet here they are as if out of breath, exhausted, at a standstill in the burning sand...

Did not the Khomeyni regime blindly waste its human resources? For the war in the Gulf is not its only struggle. More than a third of the strength of the army and the guardians of the revolution are fighting within their own country, in Iranian Kurdistan, against the autonomist Kurds. And then there are the mountains, which like ramparts pose an obstacle to conventional forces, prevent the deployment of their heavy weaponry, and make it possible to have a charge by inspired children, if by chance the occasion arose there. Correspondents from Tehran are no longer permitted to go to this area, and for good reason: The Government only partially controls it, and is up against an insurrection which it has not been able to smother. In order to win in Kurdistan it would have to find an incalculable additional number of volunteers to die, candidates for suicide, but the Kurds are not Iraqis, the Kurds did not invade Iran; the Kurds are also Iranians, and there is no popular hatred of them, no latent traditional hatred to be aroused if needed. The Iranians must therefore, wage this struggle alone, without the unconditional support of the people, and with an army that, while convinced of its cause against Iraq, has here the feeling of doing a dirty job.

As secret visitors without visas, we entered the forbidden area on mule-back, climbing peaks of up to 2,500 meters. Villages nestled at the bottom of mountain valleys; dilapidated houses with flat, earth-covered roofs, and we could see the sparkle of the busy women's brocade jackets, the shimmering of their brightly colored dresses, and the glint of the scythes in fields of ripe grain of the harvesters wearing the traditional turban, full shirt, wide cloth belt, and baggy pants. Without realizing it, you come to forget that here also people are fighting, and that the present peacefulness is only an intermission in the war.

On the top of a peak what appeared but an antiaircraft battery. On lookout behind the sights were peshmergas, the Kurdish fighters, scanning the depth of the valleys hazy with the heat. Other positions could be picked out on each crest. Draped with ammunition belts, men came to meet us, welcome us, and sit us down around a steaming teapot under a shelter of branches. The sector commander told us that all his weapons had been seized during the revolution from camps of the dissolving imperial army.

The men on watch did not leave their posts, because enemy attacks are unpredictable. The enemy is mainly the supersonic Phantom and the Cobra combat helicopter, which are difficult targets. It could also be a column of tanks trying to force its way across a pass, and which it is essential to stop at once. The slightest inattention can have disastrous consequences when you are fighting one against a hundred.

Our mules were left to graze. A jeep was waiting for us near a tree, close to a driveable track which marked out a winding, brown path over the sloping prairie speckled with wild poppies of a brilliant scarlet. Destination: The headquarters of the Kurdistan Democratic Party of Iran (PDKI), a party supported by the majority of the 6.5 million Kurds of Iran, and allied with the mojahedin of the people, the Shi'ite muslims of the left, and to the Azerbaijanis also opposing Khomeyni's regime.

The jeep brought us to the entrance to a heavily wooded gorge and a camouflaged parking area under the trees, and stopped among 15 or so parked vehicles. We continued on foot up the bed of a rapidly flowing stream without noticing anything unusual. Nevertheless, we were at the nerve center of the resistance, at the very location where all the important decisions were taken, amid an invisible complex. Who could imagine that here, in bunkers lighted with electricity from generators, there were editing rooms where brochures, pamphlets, and magazines were prepared for members and fighters; training rooms for instructing the resistance cadres; dormitories; dininghalls; kitchens; running water and telephones in each area; latrines; a radio station; a library; a telephone exchange; a broadcasting station over which disputatious announcers, very popular with the peshmergas, vituperate daily in three languages--Kurdish, Azerbaijani and Persian, condemning the Islamic regime and supporting democracy.

Harrassment and Ambushes

It was Doctor Ghassemlou, secretary of the PDKI, who had come to meet us, who introduced us to this mysterious hideout. This gentleman, large, greying in his 50's, hooked nose, hollow chest and slightly overweight, did not fit one's image of a fighter. He was an intellectual polyglot who had lived 30 years of exile in Europe and had known how to benefit from it.

Seeing his modern headquarters, we thought back to our experiences among the maquis of Afghanistan. Here among the Kurds of Iran, the effectiveness of a mainly majority and well-organized party, compared to the multiplicity of Afghan parties more or less in agreement and united, was very evident. On Afghan territory they were fighting according to the inspiration of the moment, without an overall strategy, for their own village, for their valley... However, those courageous improvisations were often carried out in an atmosphere like medieval uprisings.

Doctor Ghassemlou explained: "For us, organization and method go hand-in-hand with strategy. The element left to chance is minimal. Our 12,000 fighters and 60,000 auxiliaries are trained by leaders who follow the directives prepared here by the PDKI military command and the political bureau."

Indeed, the two resistance movements reflect rejection phenomena which are radically different. The Afghans, facing the brutal Soviet invasion, which is a manifestation of one aspect of industrial civilization, have turned back to their past, their religion, and have declared holy war on the invading unbelievers. Iran also resorted to this return to the origins in order to bring down the pro-West shah regime. However, far from replacing the imperial despotism with an enlightened government, it has revived the murky forces of dogmatism and given birth to a sectarian tyranny. However, the Kurds, although very sensitive when someone criticizes their traditions, their culture, have rejected this step backward in history and are trying to bring themselves up-to-date with our century.

The Ramadan offensive, which was officially undertaken to bring down the Saddam Husayn regime, also had an unmentioned objective: Total encirclement of the Kurds of Iran. To this end, the Iranians transferred some of their troops stationed on the Soviet border in order to strengthen the garrisons in Kurdistan. While part of the army was entering Iraq from the south, the other part, in the north, was preparing to try a push through Mahabad and Piramshahr. The two invasion forces could later join up on the other side of the border and tighten the circle around the Kurdish resistance.

The PDKI, having been informed of this plan, convened all the members of its central committee in plenary session and, as we had arrived at that very time, Doctor Ghassemlou invited us to attend. About 50 men were seated at a series of tables placed end to end in a very large room. In the back, against a wall, there was a white cloth banner with the party's founding slogan in red letters: "Democracy for Iran, autonomy for the Kurds." At each end were prominently displayed the busts of the brothers Qazi Mohammed, founders of the party and the shortlived Mahabad Autonomous Republic in 1946.

A minute's silence was observed in the memory of the two heroes whom the shah had executed after he had sent his troops to put down the small Kurdish dissident state. Since then, 38 years have passed; 38 years of oppression, struggle and clandestinity. However, the party is still there today. Decapitated several times, it has been able to reestablish itself, like the trees that you cut down yet the roots produce new trees.

Several of the men in the room, based on opposite sides of the lines, had taken more than 10 days to round up the political bureau. I respect to the offensive being prepared, the central committee decided on a tactic. Harassment and ambushes would be conducted outside the liberated areas during the coming weeks. The threatened points in the free zone would be reinforced, and they must be held, whatever the cost. The future of the Kurdish resistance depended on it.

Doctor Ghassemlou confided to us as we left the meeting: "The reason that our command center is located here, in this valley, is that this is the center of the liberated zone, the same distance from the towns of Sardasht, Piramshahr, Bikan and Mahabad, which are today occupied by the army and the Pasdarans."

Period of the Big Step Backward

In 1978 we knew Sardasht, Piramshahr, Mahabad and Bikan as free towns, full of activity. From the time of the very first activities which led up to the fall of the shah, these townspeople took over the barracks of an army traumatized by the crumbling of the empire, and happily celebrated the dawning of a new era.

However, in 1979 the same Kurdish crowds demonstrated in the streets calling for the democracy that was not forthcoming and the internal autonomy that was already being refused them. The leaden mantle of the past had fallen over almost the entire country. In Tehran and Tabriz the women who had unveiled were again wearing the chador. Here in Kurdistan, however, the women had rejected it and marched side by side with the men. Together, they wish to continue a revolution which has suddenly petrified in the rest of the country.

The shah believed: Iran must be one and indivisible. Paradoxically, Imam Khomeyni thinks the same thing. The Kurds, Sunni muslims, are suspicious of the revival stirred up by Shi'ite Islam, which has always in the past served the cause of the Persians. "Democracy for Iran, autonomy for the Kurds," they shout, with the feeling of having been betrayed.

In fact, Khomeyni is afraid of the Kurds, afraid of their goal of autonomy for all Iran's peoples, which would threaten the Persians' hegemony in Iran. This idea must be eliminated, stifled at any cost. The imam mobilized his Shi'ites and sent them to Kurdistan. The guardians of the revolution caused a disturbance 70 km from Mahabad, in Nagadeh, a mixed town of Shi'ite Azerbaijanis and Kurds. Their goal: To cause a religious cleavage between the

two communities which previously had lived in good understanding. A provocation was enough to start the fighting. The Kurds defended themselves. We were there in 1979, eyewitnesses to one of the first clashes of this domestic struggle. On one side the fanatical, aggressive bands believing they were waging a holy war against the infidels, and on the other attacked citizens trying to protect their houses and families. The army, so recently imperial, now supported the representatives of the Islamic Republic. Its tanks and helicopters machinegunned the Kurdish quarters of Nagadeh, indiscriminately killing children, women and old people. Outnumbered, and having no adequate weapons to counter the army's modern firepower, the Kurdish fighters collected their dead and withdrew, while the frenzied crowds, shouting "death to the infidels." spread through the conquered town.

The following day, the Nagadeh victims were buried in Mahabad cemetery in the presence of a silent crowd who saw in this funeral ceremony the end of their illusions.

Today, the major urban centers of Kurdistan, surrounded by tanks, are in the hands of the army and the guardians of the revolution. However, the resistance by the Kurds is by no means over.

Doctor Ghassemlou explained to us: "We could not hold onto the towns. Planes and artillery bombarded the civilians. You remember Sannandaj in 1980. We lost 2,500 killed there, and more than 600 at Baneh. That is why we took to the bush. However, even though they are occupied, our organization finds the towns very useful. We have won over the people. In fact, they provide us with our basic necessities. The barriers of the army and pasdarans are far from impenetrable, believe me."

[14 Aug 82 p 5]

[Text] II--An Area of Freedom

In addition to the war against Iraq, the Iranian regime is also fighting the autonomist Kurds, most of whom are members of the PDKI. After having traveled for a month through the area liberated by the Kurdish fighters (LE MONDE, 13 August), Jean Bartolino here explains how they visualize this autonomy in practice.

Abdul Amini, a red-haired young man, former second lieutenant in the Iranian Army, commands the largest of the three prisons of the resistance. We came upon him while he was teaching illiterate pasdarans and soldiers, with the help of prisoners who had received university education and who appreciated the way he treated the prisoners. Most of the 400 prisoners in his care will be freed in less than a year, and Abdul Amini hopes that in future they will not let themselves be so easily misled by those who, as he put it, are trying to plunge the country into obscurantism.

The Kurds of Iran, culturally harrassed, and threatened as a people, worship knowledge, and struggle to acquire it or expand it, for they know that in enduring trials ignorance is the most certain ally of fanaticism and tyranny.

In Kurdistan, schools are springing up in every village. The children throw themselves into their work right from opening day, listen intently to the words of the young teachers, who have had to be trained quickly, and devour the grammar and history books which the PDKI has had written and printed. Under the shah, the students had to learn Persian and were forbidden to speak their own language in class. In those days many played hooky.

The classrooms are usually quite close to the village council building. These municipal councils, which were established by the Democratic Party in about the same period as the schools, over a period of 3 years, operate more or less like ours. They levy taxes in order to help the needy and maintain local roads, they defend the interests of their constituents, and deal with current problems. In the event of a serious argument between two persons or two families, they appeal to one of the three traveling judges in the liberated zone.

At Miraveh, a large market town near Iraq, halfway between Piramshahr and Sardasht, we attended a council meeting, chaired by Rasul Hassan Zada, a merchant who was a member of the PDKI. During the meeting, the elected town officials--for they are elected by the townspeople, decided to start a refuse service and to pay for it with a tax on gross earnings of merchants and shopkeepers, who, in this border crossroads, make a good deal of money and do a good business. An education campaign is planned to persuade small shopowners and craftsmen to clean outside their premises and not throw trash in the street. If the results are not satisfactory, the council plans dissuasive measures such as reportig and fines.

In fact, Miraveh has expanded too quickly, and since the army's occupation of the major towns has become the resistance's most important trading center, including contraband. Its well-supplied bazaar provides the customers with both essentials and self-indulgence items. It exhibits glittering jewelry, makeup products, perfumes, candies, bright-colored fabrics and expensive carpets, and hides behind stacks of cans of fruit juice bottles of wine, beer and even whiskey. A service station, which somehow gets its gas in 500-liter cans from the occupied areas, dispenses fuel to the big Romanian tractors of the farmers in the area, and to trucks, buses and private cars which crowd the main avenue. There is construction everywhere: New stores, new houses, restaurants. From all parts of Kurdistana, the stone-cutters, masons, carpenters, and porters converge on this fast-growing town and have hardly arrived before they are hired.

This stimulating bustle of activity is perhaps only a passing phenomenon. That is why some are profiting to the maximum, hurrying to get rich and providing what people want. And what a Kurd wants most, even a prosperous individual, is weapons. Small dealers offer a Soviet Kalashnikov at the astronomical price of 25,000 francs and find customers who count out cash and leave with their toy and cartridge belt, hoping that they will be

taken for fighters, which they are not. For the real fighters, fully equipped and fed by the Democratic Party, are where the fighting is, and hardly have any time to strut around in the town.

It is true that Miraveh does need to be supervised: Some parts have the appearance of a cesspool, with refuse clogging the gutters. Rassul Hassan Zada and his council, combining strictness with pragmatism, have given themselves a period of 2 months in which to transform the town.

Family Quarrels

Doctor Ghassemlou maintains that "95 percent of the Kurds favor autonomy, and of thie 95 percent at least 80 percent basically support our party."

These figures agree with the results of the 1979 legislative elections, in which the PDKI candidates received between 80 and 85 percent of the votes in Kurdistan. However, the elected deputies were never able to sit in Parliament, because the Islamic Government, then headed by Bani-Sadr, invalidated the vote by declaring the Kurds outside the law. Among the remaining, "floating" 15 percent of the population, there are people who are indifferent or apolitical, but also opponents who are hostile to the direction of the Democratic Party, which they regard as a little too bougeois and opportunist. Among others, there is the Komala, [gathering] a very doctrinary Marxist-Leninist party with about 600 fighters. The Komala, though hunted in Iran, where opposition is not tolerated, is able to operate and express itself freely in the free areas of Kurdistan, and it does not hesitate to do so.

The PDKI also has totally friendly relations with Kurds living in neighboring countries. Currently, it could not do without the discreet assistance of Baghdad, which could seal the border and prevent it from communicating with outside, if it acted too intransigently. The opposition Kurds in Iraq receive aid from Tehran or Damascus. These three capitals thus operate in their own interest, using the Kurds for the single objective of weakening their neighbors and also trying to turn one against the other. The Kurds, driven from all directions, are dependent on these doubtful alliances. The PDKI's relations with the Kurdish socialists in Iraq of Rassul Mamendi, who practice the taking of hostages among foreigners working in Iraq, are sometimes rather strained. Ghassemlou regarded this kind of action as indicating political immaturity. He had intervened personally on several occasions to obtain the release of French captives, no doubt profiting from a favorable balance of strength. Thus far, all differences with that organization have been solved by dialogue.

There is also not a very solid understanding between the PDKI and Jalal Talebani's Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. He was one of the first to oppose Mullah Mustafa Barzani in the 1960's. Talebani, who now lives in Damascus and has about 4,000 fighters in Iraq, favors the Marxist-Leninists in Iran. The Democratic Party leaders apply the same epithet to him as the Komala uses for them. For the present, they mutually accuse each other of being petty bourgeois opportunists, yet without pushing the dispute to the stage of armed confrontation. It is true that if this kind of confrontation did

occur, the PDKI would have a clear advantage because it is stronger and better armed than all the other parties put together. However, it would be contradicting its historical role, contradicting the ideals which justify its struggle. The PDKI leadership tries to transform rivalry into discussion, to negotiate with its adversaries.

There is, however, one Kurdish group of Iraqi origin with which the PDKI does contest: The group of the Barzani brothers, Idriss and Mas'ud, sons of Mullah Mustafa Barzani, the former charismatic leader of the Kurdish resistance in Iraq. The brothers have, in effect, allied themselves with the guardians of the revolution and are paid by the Islamic Government to attack the Kurds of Iran. Their peshmergas attack the Democratic Party fighters, sometimes delivering very heavy blows, because they are also familiar, having long practiced it, with guerrilla warfare. They know the country perfectly and know how to set ambushes. The Iranian Army and the pasdarans use them as guides during offensives and send them to infiltrate the rear of the autonomists, who they strike from behind, preventing them from drawing back or linking up with other units.

The two sons of Mustafa Barzani and their fighters, the remnant of what was one of the greatest movements in Kurdish history, are today regarded as traitors and mercenaries by the majority of the local people.

There are also other traitors, particularly among the feudal clans, who also prefer to put themselves under Imam Khomeyni's leadership rather than lead a popular resistance which might threaten their privileges.

The Kurdish issue is complex, but one fact is certain today in Iran: The Kurdistan Democratic Party is the largest opposition party against the Islamic regime. Its influence extends not only to the Kurds and non-native peoples living in their provinces, but also to everyone suffering under the theocratic regime of the ayatollahs. The Kurdistan of Iran appears to these oppressed people as an island of liberty where there still burns the last flame of a revolution which has been stifled everywhere else. That is why the Iranians want to crush it at all costs.

The second phase of the Ramadan offensive, which was also aimed against Kurdistan, has failed. The pasdarans and the army did not succeed in breaking through. The joinup with the forces in the south, who have become bogged down, did not take place. The dead and wounded--15,000 Kurds have already fallen since the beginning of the conflict, and thousands of others are maimed and navigate with crutches--have not reduced the determination of this people fighting for its freedom.

9920

CSO: 4619/126

IRAN, MALTA TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL RELATIONS

GF191706 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] Tehran, 19 Sep (IRNA)--The possibilities of expanding political and economic ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Malta were discussed here in a meeting between the foreign ministers of the two countries.

Alex Sceberra Trigoni, who arrived here Saturday night, was received by his Iranian counterpart, Dr Velayati, this morning.

After the meeting, the Maltese foreign minister said to an IRNA reporter that the aim of his trip to Iran was to study expansion of bilateral relations. He further stressed the necessity of strengthening mutual relations between Iran and Malta, particularly since they were both members of the Non-aligned Movement.

During the Non-aligned Foreign Ministers Conference in Nicosia, Cyprus (in July), said the Maltese foreign minister, it was agreed that an Iranian economic delegation travel to Malta, and in return "I take a trip to Iran." He then mentioned the "positive results" of the Iranian mission's recent trip to his country.

Asked to give his opinion about the Islamic revolution of Iran, the Maltese foreign minister referred to the explicit support of his country for the Iranian revolution, which he explained had been expressed by the then prime minister of Malta in the course of the European foreign ministers meeting in 1978.

Referring to his meeting with Dr Velayati, the Maltese official stressed that "I now understand that the statesmen of the Islamic Republic are really capable of solving their own problems."

In conclusion, he stated that he had invited his Iranian counterpart to visit Malta, which offer, he added, had been welcomed by Dr Velayati.

During his 3-day stay in Tehran, the Maltese foreign minister is scheduled to meet with Iranian ministers of oil and commerce.

CSO: 4600/773

BRIEFS

PAPER CITES PURGING SERMON--[passage omitted] The judges and all those in authority should pay heed to the Imam's decree and should not issue verdicts in accordance with the idolatrous laws still in practice in the courts. This order should be implemented in all offices, especially in the customs department, and all idolatrous laws should be discarded. Persons belonging to the Tudeh Party and who are communists and counterrevolutionaries should be purged. [Excerpt] [Excerpt from Jahrom Friday Imam's sermon on need to purge Tudeh Party members siren on 27 August] [GF171910 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Aug 82 p 5]

HYPOCRITE SHOT IN ILAM--Ilam--By the order of the Islamic Revolution Court of Iran and the approval of the supreme court, Mrs Fereshten Eskandarpur, daughter of 'Isa, accused of supporting of the hypocrites organization [Mojahedin-e Khalq] of being the leader of one of the military and propaganda sections of the organization and participating in safehouses was declared corrupt on earth and a wagger of war against God and was shot Thursday morning at the Tir Roundabout in Ilam. [Text] [By JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI correspondent] [GF211900 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 6 Sep 82 p 4]

EXECUTIONS IN AHVAZ REPORTED--The Ahvaz Islamic Revolution Court has charged 'Adel Al-e 'Ali, son of Ebrahimi, with repeatedly visiting Iraq, importing incendiary material to supply the counterrevolutionaries, participation in blowing up of the oil pipelines in Abadan and Ahvaz, collusion with the Ba'thist-Zionist aggressors of Iraq, and guiding them during their occupation of Khorramshahr, returning to Iran in the capacity of a spy and membership in the Aflaqi Ba'thist group. Rahim Nabahani, son of Darchal, has been charged with activity in the military section of the hypocrite organization, confession to participation in 6 military operations, including assassination, setting on fire, has been identified as a rebel against the Imam, wagger of war against God and the prophet (peace be upon him) and a corrupt on earth. After endorsement of the Supreme Judicial Council the execution sentences were carried out by ex-hypocrites who had repented and been pardoned. [Text] [Communique issued by the Islamic Revolution Ministry of Justice of Ahvaz--date not given] [GF211536 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 11 Sep 82 p 21]

HASHTPAR MOBILIZATION KILLS HYPOCRITE--Hashtpar Tavalesh--During a body search a hypocrite shot a member of Hashtpar mobilization with a Colt, martyred him, and was subsequently shot by the mobilization brothers. Our

mobilization brothers of Hashtpar discovered a suitcase containing a lot of grenades, cartridges and 217,000 tumans in a bus going to Ardabil. When the guards were conducting a body search of the carrier of that suitcase, he shot at one of the mobilization brothers of Hashtpar, named Ja'far Ne'matzadeh, with the Colt he was carrying, and martyred him. In an attempt to run away, he was shot by the other brothers and killed. One packet of playing cards and a considerable number of forged birth certificates were found in his pockets. [Text] [By KEYHAN correspondent] [GF211916 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 12 Sep 82 p 2]

TUDEH PARTY BEHIND EXECUTION--The Front for Liberation of Iran [FLI] which is headed by Dr 'Ali Amini, a former Iranian prime minister, has issued a statement concerning Qotbzadeh's execution. It blamed the Tudeh party as the main element responsible for his execution. The FLI statement says: We, (?irrespective of) the basic differences that FLI had with Qotbzadeh, believe that he was annihilated due to the agitation of the Tudeh party. The statement points out that Qotbzadeh, who saw himself as the implementer of neither the eastern nor western policy, was faced with [passage indistinct]. [Text] [GF181638 (Clandestine) Voice of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 18 Sep 82]

SAUDI FORCES DEPLOYED NEAR PILGRIMS--Following [passage indistinct] to protest against the savage massacre of the Muslim peoples of Lebanon and Palestine by the Zionist forces and simultaneously with the anniversary of the beginning of the war imposed by Iraq on Iran, the Saudi security forces and police, equipped with gas masks, truncheons, tear gas and firearms, have been deployed around the Imam Mosque and on the march routes of the Iranian pilgrims toward the Haram Mosque. An IRNA report from Mecca states that Saudi military helicopters this morning flew over Mecca and the area of the office supervising the affairs of the Iranian Hajj pilgrims and the assembly center of the Iranian Hajj tours. The same report states that to foil the spectacular activities of the Iranian Hajj pilgrims toward enlightening the muslims of other countries on the issues of the world of Islam, Saudi Arabia has undertaken extensive propaganda through television and the other mass media. [Text] [LD221814 TEHRAN Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 Sep 82]

U.S. EMBASSY MARCH PLANNED--Tehran, 22 Sep (IRNA)--The Muslim people of the Islamic Republic of Iran will March to the den of spies (former U.S. Embassy) in Tehran on Thursday, and shout "death ot the U.S. and the Zionist regime." This was announced today by the committee responsible for administering the second anniversary of the Iraqi imposed war week ceremonies, from 22 September to 28 September. The announcement added that the main enemies of the Muslin nations of the world are the criminal U.S. and the Qods [Jerusalem] occupying regime which have revealed completely their barbaric and savage nature to the people of the world during the recent days. [Text] [LD222334 Tehran IRNA in English 1944 GMT 22 Sep 82]

IRANIAN-TANZANIAN POLITICAL TIES DISCUSSED--Tehran, 20 Sep (IRNA)--Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad Azizi met and conferred today with the Tanzanian deputy oil minister, Mr Jengowa. In this meeting, Mr Jengowa expressed his country's interest in establishing political and economic relations with the Islamic Republic. In reply Mr Aziz while emphasising on Iran's willingness for establishing political relations with Tanzania expressed hope that the economic relations between the two countries would also expand as a result of positive and constructive political relations. [Text] [GF201615 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 20 Sep 82]

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO SPAIN--Tehran, 17 Sep (IRNA)--The Iranian ambassador to Spain, 'Abdol Karim Sana'i, on Thursday, submitted his credentials to the king of Spain, Juan Carlos. [Text] [GF171626 Tehran IRNA in English 1544 GMT 17 Sep 82]

CSO: 4600/773

IRAQI OPPOSITIONISTS ON HUSAYN REGIME'S 'WEAKNESS'

PM141015 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 9 Sep 82 p 2

[Interview with Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee member 'Ali 'Abd al-Khaliq and Arab Socialist Action Secretary General Hashim 'Ali Muhsin by "I.C." in Beirut--date not given]

[Text] The Iraqi Marxist opposition to President Saddam Husayn's regime appears to believe that it is not the Iranian army's presence on Iraqi territory but the insurrectionary situation experienced by Kurdistan which constitutes the principal threat to the Baghdad government. These conclusions were reached at the end of a lengthy confersation held in Beirut by EL PAIS with 'Ali 'Abd al-Khaliq, member of the Iraqi Communist Party Central Committee, and Hashim 'Ali Muhsin, secretary general of the Iraqi Arab Socialist Action Party and former chairman of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions (1964-1969).

One of the two coalitions bringing together the underground opposition parties--the National Democratic Front--has its headquarters in Iraqi Kurdistan where, according to Hashim 'Ali Muhsin, "some 10,000 guerrillas, including communists, are struggling against the Ba'thist regime and control much of the territory, except the camps where the army remains entrenched, and the cities, where they operate only at night."

"Not by chance," he added, "in a final attempt to win over the Kurds and mobilize opinion against Iran, the regime proclaimed an amnesty in mid-July applicable to the Kurdish nationalists imprisoned for the crime of armed rebellion but of scant practical significance because it did not include the armed Kurdish groups responsible for executions or abductions of foreigners--that is, almost everybody.

"Even more than in the rest of the country," he added, "the security services have lost control of the situation, to such an extent that demonstrations occurred in Kurdish cities such as Sulaymaniyah in April and May."

The Iraqi Kurdish population numbers about 3 million inhabitants, regime is the National Democratic Front [as published], based in Damascus.

For his part, Hashim 'Ali Muhsin is convinced that "Iraq started the war against Iran on the advice of Saudi Arabia, and even the United States, to prevent Ayatollah Khomeyni's regime from intervening in Iraqi internal affairs; but Iraqi affairs are actually being complicated by the presence of Islamic revolutionary troops on its territory, while Tehran is succeeding--thanks to the conflict--in causing some of its internal problems to be forgotten."

The checking of the Iranian advance into Iraqi territory was explained, according to Hashim 'Ali Muhsin "by the Iranian attempt to provoke desertions in the ranks of a demoralized Iraqi army (there are already 30,000 Iraqi troops who have voluntarily gone over to the enemy army and who are being trained in Iran), as well as by the desire to cause the lowest possible number of civilian casualties, especially Shi'ites, and that is why, instead of attacking the Port of Al-Basrah directly, they crossed the border to the north-east."

When asked about the invading Iranian army's long-term aims, Hashim 'Ali Muhsin did not believe that they would go as far as Baghdad "because that would mean reviving the anti-Iranian spirit in Iraq, and any imposition by arms of an Islamic-style regime in Iraq would arouse the opposition of broad sectors of the population, including the Shi'ite elite, and would inevitably lead to a civil war."

In Hashim 'Ali Muhsin's opinion, the most likely alternative to the Ba'thist government in Baghdad "is not, therefore, an Islamic fundamentalist regime but the return to power of the supporters of the man who was the country's president until 1979--Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr--who were eliminated from power by Saddam Husayn 3 years ago and whose political line is more pan-Arab nationalist and advocates the improvement of relations with the USSR and agreement with Syria to the detriment of Saudi Arabia."

In the last reshuffle in the ruling bodies in Baghdad, last July--the previous one dated back to 1979--"Saddam Husayn finally dismantled the Ba'th Party by ridding himself of people such as Oil Minister Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, Industry Minister Tahir Tawfiq and Health Minister Riyadh Ibrahim Husayn. All of them are regarded as staunch supporters of the president, and he relied on them 3 years ago to eliminate physically the Muhammad 'Ayaish group, which was politically close to then president Al-Bakr," Hashim 'Ali Muhsin maintained.

"Now," he added, "Saddam Husayn governs only by relying on the secret services and on the security apparatus headed by his half-brother Barzan Ibrahim." "But the mere fact that in this latest purge Saddam Husayn did not dare physically eliminate his alleged opponents is clear proof of his weakness," 'Ali 'Abd al-Khaliq asserted.

But in Iraqi communist leader 'Ali Abd al-Khaliq's opinion, the regime's weakness is to be gauged primarily in terms of its disastrous economic situation. "The country," he asserted, "which possessed reserves worth \$37

"billion in September 1980, would have declared itself bankrupt but for the \$29 billion in aid supplied to it by the (Persian) gulf countries; the country, which used to extract 3.5 million barrels of oil per day, is now producing only 600,000; its industrial output is falling and the shortage of foreign currency with which to pay its forcing it to freeze the assets of some foreign companies."

CSO: 4400/493

FRONT OPPOSES IRAN'S PENETRATION IN IRAQ

JN182037 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Sep 82

["Text" of statement by the political command of the Democratic National and Patriotic Front in Iraq--date and place not given; read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Since its establishment our militant front has asserted its firm and principled stand on condemning the comprehensive and destructive Iraqi-Iranian war and its continuation. [passage omitted]

The front has always believed that the two countries' border problems can be solved peacefully through direct fraternal dialogue between the real representatives of the Irawi people [words indistinct] the fascist regime in Iraq and the Islamic Republic in Iran. [passage indistinct] The Iranian army entered the Iraqi territories in the Al-Bashrah governorate and the Iranian leadership expressed its intention to militarily penetrate into Iraq [words indistinct]. In view of this, the Democratic National and Patriotic Front in Iraq, proceeding from its historical responsibilities toward the people and homeland, announces to the public its complete and firm rejection of the Iranian forces' entry into Iraq's territory, considering it an occupation of others' land and a flagrant violation of the principles of our Iraqi people's national sovereignty over their lands and territorial waters because national sovereignty is something related to our struggling Iraqi people and not to the agent fascist regime. Moreover, the Iranian military penetration into the Iraqi territories constitutes (?serious) defiance of the will of our people who are struggling to topple the present fascist regime and establish a national democratic coalition regime in Iraq. [passage indistinct]

The Iranian military penetration into Iraq does not lead to the overthrow of the agent fascist regime, but poses a real and serious threat to the Iraqi national unity [words indistinct] and opens the door for the imperialist, Zionist and agent reactionary forces to implement their hostile (?schemes) and disrupt the Iraqi people's unity [words indistinct] the Arab [words indistinct] movement, which is exercising also the armed popular struggle, with the aim of topping the agent fascist regime and establishing [words indistinct], requests all Arab and international progressive powers to exert effective efforts to end the Iraqi-Iranian war, whose fire burns both the Iraqi and Iranian peoples. It also calls on the Iranian leadership to immediately withdraw its forces from Iraq out of respect for [word indistinct] and Iranian [word indistinct] the principles of our Iraqi people's sovereignty over their territory and natural resources. [passage indistinct]

BAGHDAD 'VOP' URGES WEST BANK, GAZA UPRISING

JN151206 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1635 GMT 10 Sep 82

[Unattributed "Friday Talk"]

[Text] Our masses in the occupied homeland: After the battle of Beirut and after the legendary steadfastness, the Palestinian struggle enters a new stage. The armed struggle which began in 1965 and continues today has contributed large political accomplishments to our national cause. This armed struggle was and is still based on a Palestinian popular consensus embodied in the valiant popular uprisings against all phases of Judaization, settlement and repressive economic measures. These uprisings which were initiated by the West Bank and Gaza Strip masses, managed to raise the voice of the national Palestinian will over all the enemy's tools of repression and all falsehoods and deception aimed at obliterating our people's national entity and struggle.

We say this well aware of the fact that our people's masses share the conviction that our revolution and people are capable of continuing the march. We say this knowing that our people are fully armed with the conviction and determination which are now setting the scene for the new stage--the stage of what comes after Beirut.

It has become apparent that the occupied territory is the main area of struggle. This means that the impetus of the national Palestinian struggle is now being concentrated in the cities of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. It also means that our people's sacrifices in the refugee camps outside the occupied territory are now being transferred to our camps, cities and villages in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Galilee. We do not at all think that our people outside the occupied territory will stop their armed struggle or any other form of struggle. Meanwhile, we would like to draw attention to the decisive importance of our people's stand and struggle inside the occupied territory. We say this in view of the fact that all the enemies are now submitting a host of plans agreeing on one point, that is, finding a solution to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza Strip--a solution which sidesteps our people's national aspirations, attempts to return our people to the ages in which their national identity was denied and deals with our people as groups dispersed here and there, giving a certain status and solution to every group. Such a solution gives this group autonomy and that one a refugee camp

confined to some rations and services. Under this solution all are robbed of their identity and future.

In the wake of these attempts and plans our people are requested to rise against the tools of suppression and plotting. They are also requested to undertake organized and continuous uprisings, to speak with the bullet, bomb, word, stone, demonstration and strike. By doing so, the occupied homeland returns to the first positions of confrontation and turns from a territory open to the enemy's arrogant schemes into a territory burning, destroying and expelling the occupiers.

Our kinfolk in the occupied homeland: Sharon, Shamir and Begin know quite well that they are facing an entire people. It is not accidental that the invasion of Beirut coincided with the dismissal of the mayors, who have proved through experience that they are an important and basic support. Moreover, it is not accidental that the invasion of Lebanon coincided with a new settlement campaign. The Zionist invasion of Lebanon was aimed at uprooting our revolution from an extremely important position; the Zionist onslaught in the occupied territory is aimed at further encircling our people with a military belt in the form of settlements. In the same manner that the camps of Lebanon had their militant national leadership, the cities and camps in the West Bank and Gaza Strip had their national leadership. It is then the same situation and the same challenge and tasks. However, our people's difficult national struggle has objective circumstances that transfer the hotbeds of tension from one place to another. The revolutionary hotbeds of tension are still being transferred alternately from the Jordan Valley to southern Lebanon, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Beirut, Al-Biqa', the occupied territories and so forth, escalating the militant course which can achieve our people's aims in repatriation, self-determination and sovereignty.

Masses of the occupied territory: the eyes of your people and revolution are now directed toward you, full of confidence and hopes. Your people and revolution pin hopes on you. You are the ones with the louder voice and more important national accomplishments. With you the revolution continues and with your perseverant and difficult struggle the enemy becomes certain that its battle is not a foray outside the borders but a confrontation throughout the Palestinian territory.

Move ahead toward organization, preparation and struggle. The school is a combat base; the village, city, society, municipal council, university and every institution are combat bases; the leaflets are weapons, the word is a weapon, the stone is a weapon, the fist is a gun, the rocks are bullets and the well-planned organization is a means of continuation. You are the leaders and substance of struggle. Let us move ahead toward our mission hand in hand everywhere in order to rub Sharon's nose in the mud once again and buy all plans aimed at liquidating our national cause. Now you begin in the Ad-Duhayshah [camp in Bethlehem] while your brothers continue fighting in southern Lebanon and Al-Biqa'. Your revolution enjoys all the components of survival. Your nation, which looks at you with pride and confidence, was and is still with you. The battle is in essence the battle over the Arabism of this land. The battle in essence is whether our people will or will not exist.

'INA' INTERVIEWS AIR FORCE COMMANDER ON WAR

JN050754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0720 GMT 5 Sep 82

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA)--The commander of the air force and air defense has stated that his force have received very sophisticated weapons during the 2 years of the war.

In an interview with INA on the second anniversary of the war, the commander of the air force and air defense said that these weapons, coupled with the faith of the Iraqi's in their cause and rights, and sound planning and excellent training have enabled our air force to maintain its superiority since the beginning of the war.

He stressed that the Iraqi air force is now capable of destroying any enemy target which tries to sully our sacred land. It is also capable of destroying any vital target deep inside enemy territory. The commander of the air force and air defense gave as an example of Iraqi air force superiority the bombardment of Khark Island by the Iraqi fighter planes. He said: From now on, we will strike any vessel which seeks to reach the Khark Island port, irrespective of its nationality, if the enemy insists on pursuing its intransigence.

The commander of the air force and air defense explained how the Iraqi pilots have gained valuable experience and lessons from the battles during the past 2 years. He said that these lessons are a great asset to the Arab nation in its confrontation of any aggression.

Concluding his interview, the commander of the air force and air defense stressed that the Iraqi fighter planes had reached all the enemy's vital targets despite the enemy's sophisticated weapons and the continued flow of weapons from Zionism and those who claim to be Arabs.

CSO: 4400/493

BRIEFS

ANTI-IRAQI FRONT MEETS--Kuysanjaq--The Irbil Committee of the Democratic National and Patriotic Front [PUK] held a meeting on 5 Sep 1982 in a Kuysanjaq district. The meeting was attended by representatives of the four parties which make up the front. Following a discussion of the situation in the [words indistinct] governorate in particular, and the tragic situation in Kurdistan and Iraq under the Ba'thist regime in general, the front's committee adopted several important decisions. These concentrated on strengthening the front and consolidating and developing the joint struggle politically, militarily and socially against the fiendish schemes of the racist fascist Ba'thist regime. The decisions also concentrated on confronting the regime and striking at its installations and its agent organs. Long live the joint struggle of all Kurdistan's Peshmerga and Iraqi revolutionaries. [Text] [JN082044 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan in Arabic 1645 GMT 8 Sep 82]

ENGINEERING CORPS' WAR ROLE--Baghdad, 11 Sep (INA)--A ranking Iraqi officer revealed that Iraq has successfully waged an inconspicuous [ghayr manzurah] war against the Iranian forces during the past 2 years. A staff major general, the military engineer director, said in a statement published here today that the engineer corps waged the "water battle" in the southern and central sectors, surmounted the natural barriers and prevented the enemy from exploiting these barriers. He pointed out that the military engineer corps drew up plans to break up the surface of the area [litaqti' al-mintaqah] in order to prevent the Iranian enemy from foundering the Iraqi military formations. He added that the Iranian forces wagered on seasons to offset their failure in achieving gains. He explained that the Iranian forces often attempted to flood the low areas to impede the movement and advance the Iraqi units. He said: Now that modern and sophisticated equipment are available, the engineer corps can render better and effective support to the military units. [Text] [JN110954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 11 Sep 82]

AMBASSADORS TO IRAQ--Baghdad, 12 Sep (INA)--President Saddam Husayn this morning received the credentials of the newly-appointed Bangladesh ambassador to Iraq (Mohammad Mir Reza Karim) and the newly-appointed PDRY ambassador to Iraq Ahmad 'Ali Maysari. [Text] [JN121230 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 12 Sep 82]

OUTGOING QATARI AMBASSADOR--Baghdad, 13 Sep (INA)--'Izzat Ibrahim, revolution command council vice chairman, has received 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman Miftah, Qatari

ambassador in Baghdad, on the occasion of the latter's end of term of office in Iraq. [Excerpt] [JN131146 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Sep 82]

ANTI-REGIME OPERATION OPPOSITION RADIOED--On 29 August, a joint unit of the partisans of the first platoon set up an ambush on the main road between Qarah Dagh and [name indistinct]. An enemy convoy was caught in the ambush of our partisans who opened up intensive fire on the enemy. The battle lasted for 1 and 1/2 hours and resulted in the following: First: nine of the enemy were killed. Second: a personnel carrier was destroyed. Third: a command jeep was burned. Fourth: a large number of the enemy personnel were seriously wounded. The unit then returned safely to base. [Text] [JN211955 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Revolution in Arabic 1545 GMT 21 Sep 82]

CSO: 4400/493

JORDAN PAPER RIDICULES U.S. PLEDGES ON BEIRUT

JN190756 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 19 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Blessed Be the Blood, Beirut," AD-DUSTUR says: We accepted the evacuation of your protectors and trusted those who said that a pledge by Reagan and other mediators would be enough to protect you. We thought that such a pledge would be as sincere as the pledges of those who sacrificed their blood and lives to defend you, those who for months, endured the downpour of cluster, fragmentation and phosphorous bombs.

Blessed be the blood, Beirut. The dear blood shed in Beirut has proved that Hitler's days are not over. The remains of the bodies of Beirut infants and women stress that all the human rights slogans are false and meaningless. The slaughtered bodies prove that our commemoration of the anniversary of the destruction of Nazism is merely an illusion. Nazism is being revived. This time the neo-Nazism is not being antagonized by the biggest and strongest state in the world. The whole world has become aware of the reality of Zionism, yet the leader-state of the free world, namely the United States, has pledged to arm the Nazi Israelis and support them with money, arms and indulgence and it has indeed honored its pledges. The United States also pledged to prevent the invaders from entering West Beirut and pledged to protect civilian Palestinian refugees and Lebanese people. Yet this time it did not honor its pledges. The result was that the human life in Beirut has been humiliated.

May America be delighted at the accomplishments of its weapons on the flesh of Beirut infants and women. May America be pleased with the accomplishments of its ally, the sole democratic state in the Middle East.

AD-DUSTUR adds: As for the Arab nation which has been horrified by the carnage, we say that Beirut is not the first Arab city destroyed by the Zionists. Scores of Palestinian cities and villages were previously destroyed by them. The most well known being Begin's massacre in Dayr Yasin. As long as the Arab state of affairs continues, and as long as this state of weakness and fragmentation continues our enemy which has been intoxicated by the blood of Beirut infants and the Palestinian camps will repeat the same incident again and again until the Arabs find a shield other than the U.S. pledges to protect Arab women and infants in West Beirut and its camps.

CSO: 440/497

DAILY URGES FIRM U.S. STAND TOWARD ISRAEL

JN180958 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 18 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] AR-RA'Y says: It is not enough for the U.S. administration to request Israel to withdraw its forces from West Beirut and find its request rejected by Israel. It is also not enough for U.S. envoy Morris Draper to move between Tel Aviv and Beirut or for the White House to send an urgent message to the Lebanese prime minister. All this is not enough to clear the United States of guilt so long as Israeli forces rampage in the city, killing and arresting thousands of innocent people.

Likewise, it is not enough for the U.S. administration to express its indignation but at the same time back Israel with the veto, which protects it from punishment, and supply it with weapons and military hardware used in all crimes committed by the Israeli military establishment against the Arabs, including aggression on Lebanon and storming Beirut after disarming it.

The paper adds: The storming, which took place within the sight and hearing of Washington, tends to strengthen radicalism in the region and is a blow directed at all moderate or optimistic trends. It is also seen as undermining trust in U.S. commitments and arousing much doubt about the mission of U.S. envoy Philip Habib. The strengthening of radicalism is bound to abort peace prospects, an objective which Israel is seeking. It is also bound to create other complications, which must not be ignored by planners of U.S. policy.

AR-RA'Y says: Washington will make a great strategic mistake if it thinks that the continuation of Israeli crimes in the region will strengthen Arab need for the United States and force them to resolve in its orbit. Such an assessment ignores an essential truth that peoples do not forget and that they cannot be forced to sympathize with those who protect their hangmen.

AR-RA'Y concludes: The United States can win over the Arab peoples by respecting their rights and taking a firm stand [words omitted] harms its reputation more than Israeli crimes in the region and its support for the Israeli aggressors. We also wish that Washington would understand that the little trust still left in its commitments depends on the eviction of the aggressors from the city and the whole of Lebanon without delay or procrastination.

KUWAIT

KUWAITI NEWSPAPER URGES ARAB MILITARY STRIKE AGAINST ISRAEL

LD191620 Kuwait KUNA in English 1102 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Sep (KUNA)--Kuwaiti newspaper 'AL-QABAS' Sunday accused the United States of being a full partner in both the conspiracy and genocide committed against Palestinians in Lebanon by Israel.

The newspaper affirmed that the time is ripe for a well concerted military strike launched against the Zionist entity by both the Syrian and the Jordanian armies with the help of the Palestinian fighters and the Saudi-Arab backing.

Should such chance and action be dismissed by Arab, 'AL-QABAS' warned that the Beirut genocide will not be the last station in the trial of Israeli perpetrated massacres.

The newspaper commented:

"Not a word, be it in Arabic or in any living or dead language, could speak of the ugly nature of the genocide perpetrated against the Palestinian camps by Israel with the help of its agents in Beirut.

"The accumulation of four thousand years of Jewish hatred concealed under huge pressure violently erupted yesterday in Beirut turning the Palestinian camps into soil made mud with blood and debris of human bodies.

"The Jews throughout their history have suffered from one Hitler. But each street in Beirut was yesterday confronted by a Hitler-like Israeli burning people alive and murdering them with the aim of wiping out their existence. Those Israeli's turned the Palestinian dwellings into concentration camps and mass graves with their huge bulldozers. Only yesterday was it clear that the massacre of Deir Yasseen [name as received] was not the last station in the train of the wild and vile Israeli thought.

"We do not nor can we believe the allegations of American President Ronald Reagan that he felt horror learning about the massacre committed by Israel in Beirut. Isn't Israel the dragon raised by America and set free at the gates of the Middle East?

"America has furnished the road to hell, for the Arabs, with its 'good intentions.' Reagan needs much more than [words indistinct] and dramatic statements to prove to the Arabs that his country has not played the role of a 'full partner' in the conspiracy and the genocide alike.

"Arabs have gone to the limits in showing their goodwill during the summit held recently in Fes. They did so to please the American administration sketching the [word indistinct] of peaceful solution. The Arabs then did not direct their consensus towards fighting Israel because until then some influential Arab countries were still betting on the good nature of the alleged American intentions.

"Now is the hard test for both America and the Arabs collectively. Only the crazy and the headless would think that the genocide of Beirut, where thousands of heads rolled under bulldozers, will pass without rolling along many a head standing in a power position.

"Arabs are able to answer back. They are able to do it now by militarily striking at Israel should America stick to neutrality and lend Israel no military or political protection. The Nazi Israeli image has been made obvious through television clippings in America, Europe and the world over. Not one civilized country will sympathize with Israel should Arabs opt to deal a well concerted military attack on Israel if no actual opposition from the Reagan administration surfaces.

"Right now one-third of the Israeli army is deployed outside occupied Palestine. The Syrian, Jordanian and Palestinian forces are militarily capable of breaking through the truce line towards the West Bank and Palestine provided with a Syrian-Arab air cover. Moreover, under the Palestinian revolution's command are fifty thousand fighters with good experience in the field of combat with Israel. In any well-coordinated war joining both the Syrian and Jordanian armies in one side, those fighters could infiltrate into the enemy lines and penetrate into the depth of the West Bank and Palestine. Arafat will round up an overwhelming international support should he declare then, on any track of liberated Palestinian land, a Palestinian government comprising a number of prominent fighters from occupied territories.

"An Arab military retaliation option needs no further summit to decide upon but requires an extensive Arab pressure on America to convince her of taking a neutral stand even for just a few weeks. The Israeli forces have reached the peak of exhaustion and are currently fanned out on sizeable Arab territories extending from Sinai to the Golans, from the sea to the river. Those forces will not be able to counter a well concerted strike by Syrian, Jordanians and Palestinian forces enjoying an Arab-Saudi backing.

"Should Arabs dismiss this chance, Beirut will certainly not witness the end of the massacres and will not be the last of the Arab capitals to be open for the Jewish neo-Nazism."

KUWAIT'S 'AL-WATAN' SCORNS ARAB IMPOTENCE

GF191457 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 19 Sep pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Shouting and Wailing Arabs"]

[Text] The most we expect the Arabs to do now is to shout. All the Arabs do now is to shout, pray or plead with the United States.

The Arabs have laid down their weapons, one after another, and forfeited their sources of strength one after another, and raised the white flag. They have willingly become doves, impotent and unarmed. The only thing left to them is words; words to fight with, words to make peace with, and words to say here and there, until they have become--as it has been correctly said--an acoustic phenomenon.

We can predict before hand exactly what the Arab leaders will say. We have learned the words by heart for they have been repeated many times. We can predict every official Arab reaction: asking the United States to quickly intervene, reminding the United States and European countries of the pledges they have given to the Palestinians and the Lebanese authorities, or emergency meetings of the Security Council and other international organizations in which we will hear fiery speeches and strong condemnations, calls for Israel's expulsion from these organizations and calls for sanctions against Israel.

All words, not a true voice will be heard saying the word that needs to be said: fight.

Certainly we will not hear it from those who should fight. Some of those who like to trade or tamper may just manage to say it.

The natural response of a human being who is being threatened with death and mutilation is to fight to defend himself. Animals instinctively do this. Any rational person would do this. However, we are being killed and slaughtered by the thousands, our bones are being crushed and our limbs are being amputated. And then we idiotically ask: What is to be done?

What we should do is well known, gentlemen, and does not need to be discovered by wily statesmen, geniuses, committees or conferences. The matter only needs a free will and courage--in an age in which the Arabs have willingly

relinquished their will, and opted for subservience openly and unashamedly, and brave men everywhere have been stabbed, besieged and imprisoned by Arabs before they were exterminated by the Israeli enemy.

We now need to be frank with each other and ask ourselves: While rivers of blood are running in Beirut and the bodies and limbs of Palestinians are being moved by bulldozers, who has brought us to our present state? Who has worked hard throughout the past years to divest the Arabs of their resources, exhaust their capabilities and embroil them in peripheral and side battles? Who has truly launched a war of extermination against the Palestinians? Who has crushed the Arab will, insulted and humiliated the Arab citizen?

The questions are many, bitter and bloody. They all point to the quarter that is primarily responsible for what happened. It is this quarter that has crushed, sowed and reaped, and then Israel came to pick the fruit from a soil that had been well prepared and planted to suit it exactly.

Gentlemen, do not blame Israel. It is the last, and not the first, quarter that is responsible.

Do not expect good things from the world, for international politics knows no friendship or charity. The impotent never attain their rights; their share, if they have any, is the crumbs. Those who lie on the ground should not be surprised if they are trodden upon.

Beware, gentlemen, the violence in Beirut carries with it a boisterous wind that will sweep away everyone when the time comes for it to blow.

CSO: 4400/497

KUWAIT

KUWAITI PAPERS COMMENT ON BEIRUT 'MASSACRE'

LD211248 Kuwait KUNA in English 1009 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Press review]

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 21 Sep (KUNA)--Extracts from Kuwaiti newspaper editorials Tuesday:

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM on the Beirut massacre and cancellation of Al-Adha festivities:

"His highness the amir yesterday ordered the cancellation of all festivities:

"His highness the amir yesterday ordered the cancellation of all festivities marking the arrival of Al-Adha Feast. Thus Kuwait joins the Arab nation in its deepest pain over the victims of the recently perpetrated vicious carnage against Palestinians in Sabra and Shatila camps, Beirut.

"This kind of [words indistinct] is not [word indistinct] stems from the amir, the government and the people's extent of commitment to the Arab national cause and their complete adherence to the Arab nation in its endurance.

"The barbaric massacre taking place in the Palestinian camps in Beirut is a fresh bleeding wound in the Arab entity. The daggers that pierced into the bodies of babies and women have at the same time cut into the inside of this Arab whole. That is why we are suffering such anguish and frustration. The Kuwaiti Government assumed its role and moved in [word indistinct] for a unified Arabs and capable of halting this savage Zionist leap on Beirut....

"Thus has been the role of Kuwait in its past and present. It will continue this way in the future. Those who plan with bad intentions against this country have to know that, and refrain from executing their evil schemes. They should point their daggers instead at the common enemy."

KUWAIT TIMES on the massacre and the Nobel Prize to Begin:

"Those wise men who were responsible for awarding Nobel Peace Prize to this beast of prey Menahem Begin ought to have the courage to confess their phenomenal error of judgment. In any event, the Nobel Prize should be withdrawn. True, there is no precedent for such action. But there is no precedent for

"the conduct of Begin either. If the Nobel honour is not withdrawn from Begin, it would be nothing short of an abiding insult to that prize, to the institution of that name, and to past and future holders of the unique distinction.

"America, on the other hand, should have the courage to lead in de-recognition of the Begin clique in Israel. Reagan is on record having warned Begin against moving into Beirut. So Reagan has all the reason in the world to be mad at Begin. But the chances are that Reagan would barter his and his nation's self-respect for the Jewish vote in November elections. Pity.

"The United Nations owes it to the afflicted people of Lebanon to set up an adequately powered court of inquiry to establish the extent of damage and losses inflicted by Israel's aggression and the reparation Israel is clearly liable to pay. Of course, there is valid formula to calculate what a human life is worth [no verb as received], even so, families of those slain in Lebanon as a result of the carnage engineered by Israel and its accomplices should be duly and promptly compensated." [passage omitted]

'AL-ANBA' on Washington and the carnage of Palestinians in Lebanon:

"The carnage of Palestinians at Sabra and Shatila camps was so hideous its perpetrators had to deny committing it not in regret of what they did but in fear of what might be the world reaction to it.

"If such bark [word indistinct] ended with an attempt to escape the responsibility of committing it still the U.S. remains the party shouldering the prime responsibility of allowing its occurrence and of unblocking the way for its repetition.

"Pointing a finger of accusation at the U.S. is not an attempt to release the grief being suffered but is a just condemnation of a country that kept seeking to expell the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon all along eight years and from Beirut throughout eighty days, thanks to bombs, and has provided pledges in secret and publicly affirming that the resistance's departure will lead to a return of peace and stability to Lebanon....

"Washington is henceforth responsible for the program which was not accidental but came as a result of preparatory steps launched since the fourth of September when the Israeli forces rolled their tanks toward Shatila and Sabra and defused mines planted in the road leading to them.

"True the U.S. can go on concocting carnages for Arabs and continue humiliating them with or without the collaboration of Israel, but what it cannot do is keep forever the state of silence and dead responses it has known Arabs to be in throughout the last thirty years. A new era of rage will govern this world and will let the United States and Israel seek to safeguard heads rather than countries."

CSO: 4400/497

'KUNA' DIRECTOR INTERVIEWED ON LEBANON SITUATION

LD221314 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1019 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Sep (KUNA)--(Barjas al-Barjas), chairman of the board of administration and director general of KUNA, in an interview published here today has urged Syria and Jordan to "open their borders to the Palestinian resistance in order to continuously and intensively disturb the enemy" as a first step in reply to the massacre of Palestinian civilians in their camps in West Beirut committed by the Israeli occupation forces in cooperation with their Lebanese allies.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti AL-WATAN He stresses that the Arabs have no solution but the military solution, which could [words indistinct] the Palestinians, in response to the massacre of more than 1,500 men, women and children and the aged in the camps of Sabra and Shatilah.

In the event that the resistance's request that it be given a free hand to operate freely from the Arab states is complied with, Syria and Jordan "should adopt defensive measures to repulse and deter any Israeli aggression against them."

Damascus and Amman have become host to Palestinian fighters after their withdrawal from the Lebanese capital at the end of last month, in accordance with an American plan by which all the Palestinian resistance men left Beirut and were deployed in eight Arab countries.

Al-Barjas calls on the Arab states to reconsider their relations with the United States and the rest of the major powers "in the light of their postures vis-a-vis a repeated Israeli aggression against the Arabs." At the same time he expresses his hope that "these states will support justice by backing the Arab nations on the departure of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon and their withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to ensure the independence of Lebanon and the establishment of the Palestinian state." However, he urges "those who want to, especially the United States, to remain neutral so that the Arab people may settle their account with the Zionists and those who stand behind them and who guard them in our Arab region."

Al-Barjas also calls on the Arab states that boycotted Egypt after the Camp David agreement it concluded with Israel and the United States to "do their

"utmost to convince Egypt to break off its relations with Israel and abrogate this agreement and to return to Arab ranks," especially after Cairo recalled its ambassador from Tel Aviv.

He describes recalling the Egyptian ambassador as "the beginning of the road to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold." He says that the Arabs should convince Egypt to "follow the step of recalling the ambassador with others, such as finally withdrawing its ambassador, breaking off all relations with Israel and then abrogating the Camp David Accords." He points out that it is "(?necessary) now for Egypt to adopt such measures, for which it would not be blamed by Israel's friends--that is, if it still has any friends after its heinous deed in Beirut," He stresses that "this is bound to honorably bring Egypt back to the ranks of the Arab nation to play a prominent part in regaining Arab rights."

The information medium official also stresses "the need to take new and speedy measures to produce Arab weapons and munitions, because the manufacture of weapons ensures sovereignty in all cases." He says that "Israel's expansionist designs and covering Arab resources as well as other colonialist designs for these resources and strategic Arab positions, are quite obvious."

He describes the Arab fighter as more courageous than the Israeli. However, he says that "politics hinder the Arab armies from doing their duty. Hence, Arab differences must be immediately settled and an Arab liberation policy should be built on cohesion and support." He adds that "if the Arab armies are given the opportunity and are politically backed by their governments with all means, they are bound to tear the Israeli army apart."

Al-Barjas accuses the United States, France and Italy of taking part in "the deception" which took place in Lebanon because they removed the Palestinian fighters from that capital, after which the Israeli forces stormed its western sector. He expresses "his pain" that a brother Arab army, "namely the Lebanese army, was pushed into the deception and a major power such as the United States and two other friendly states, France and Italy, took part in it." He says that the United States "is the obstacle in the path of achieving right for all the oppressed peoples and their just causes." He expresses his "absolute lack of confidence in American settlements." However, he says that he trusts Arab settlements "if they genuinely stem from Arab origin, away from all western origins and suspicious American plans."

CSO: 4400/497

'AL-ANWAR' ON ISRAELI, SYRIAN WITHDRAWAL

NC121416 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Sep 82

[Text] On the level of the confrontation in the north, AL-ANWAR publishes information in its edition this morning ruling out the possibility of a battle in Al-Biqa' and the north. The information is based on a statement by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to the effect that he has pledged from the Syrian and Israeli foreign ministers to withdraw from Lebanon.

AL-ANWAR says the most important development ruling out a battle in the north and Al-Biqa' is the fact that the Israeli forces which had taken positions in the heights of Al'Aqurah and the hills overlooking the Al-Biqa' and the north have withdrawn from these positions and returned to Israel via the Aqua Marina Port, without announcing this.

The paper says that the only danger which the formula adopted by the [Fes] summit will constitute, regarding the future of the deterrent forces' presence, is the delay of the [presumably Syrian and Israeli] withdrawal from 2 to 6 months because of the dialogue that will arise as a result of: the insistence of both Syria and Israel and who will withdraw first; the suspension of the U.S. formula on simultaneous withdrawal because of Syria's possible insistence that the first Syrian soldier will withdraw only after the withdrawal of the last Israeli soldier from Lebanon.

AL-ANWAR says that this will be the main task in Draper's forthcoming mission in Lebanon and the region.

CSO: 4400/493

LEBANON

HASAN KHALID INTERVIEWED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic No 1348, 3 Sep 82 pp 20-21

[Interview with Hasan Khalid, the Mufti of Lebanon by Zaki Shihab: "The Israeli Occupation Is Toying with Sectarian Balance"]

[Text] It is in the interest of Muslims in Lebanon to put patriotism above their own confession of faith.

Al-Shaykh Hasan Khalid, the mufti of Lebanon has been silent for a long time. For many considerations he had refused to talk about public affairs. Here, however, he talks with AL-HAWADITH about a variety of conditions in Lebanon under Israeli occupation, and he calls for a national unity which [he thinks] should go beyond the political and sectarian pact of 1943. The mufti wanted to register a position in this interview: it is the interests of Lebanon, not those of one's sect that must be supreme. Here is the text of the interview:

[Question] It is being said that originally Lebanon was made up of Maronites and Druzes and that Muslims, as far as their roles are concerned, came after other sects. Do you share this opinion?

[Answer] It is our opinion that expressing opinions about the elements that make up the [official] structure of Lebanon is a seasonal exercise. Besides this opinion and others prior to it, there was also an opinion [stating] that in the future Lebanon would be made up of Maronites and Shi'ites in a structure that would replace the sectarian independent structure of Maronites and Sunnis. If the attitudes of Shi'ite Muslims, in so far as they have been patriotic, foiled the sectarian bets that were made against them, then the patriotic positions of the Druzes, which we know about, can also guarantee that all similar bets against them will be foiled.

Sectarian bets are sustained by the insistence that the composition [of the government in] Lebanon must continue to be sectarian. This is predicated on a sectarian alliance between any Islamic denomination, on the one hand, and by necessity, the political Maronism on the other. This alliance is formed in a way whereby political Maronism would constitute the constant factor, with an Islamic denomination making up the variable factor. If Sunnis do not accept this composition, they are then replaced by Shi'ites, and if Shi'ites do not accept it, they are replaced by Druzes and so on. This stage then seems to be one in which this opinion is being launched following the Muslims' rejection of a structure that is

political and sectarian. You may recall in this regard the latest joint communique that we issued with His Eminence al-Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams al-Din on rejecting political sectarianism. I am telling you that if a meeting with His Eminence al-Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra had been possible, the three of us would have issued the communique. I wish to register here an unequivocal Islamic position: it is the interests of Lebanon, not those of a sect, that must be supreme. We say this because we realize that Islamic interests in Lebanon lie in putting Lebanese national interests above those of one's own sect. The national identity of Muslims and Muslim interests will continue to be in becoming fully identified with the Lebanese nationality. And if we think that this is in the interests of Muslims, we think that it is also in the interests of all the Lebanese people. The political affiliations of the Lebanese people must be tied to Lebanon, the undivided country, and not to its 17 sects.

The composition of Lebanon, whether we are referring to the composition of a small Lebanon or to that of the sectarian charter, is one that is shaky and prone to spoil quickly. The future composition of Lebanon ought to be the opposite of that. There is no future for any makeup that would be based on sectarianism.

It is only political factions, however, that can put together a stable structure for Lebanon. There is no other way for Lebanon but that of accord between the sects.

Politicians should leave the sectarian problem to us. The experience of having a meeting for religious leaders of denominations and sects has proven that these men can at least do a good job of managing matters between the sects on a purely religious basis. As Lebanese people, we have in our religion and in our conduct qualities that would help us be tolerant not only with all sects, but also with the whole world.

[Question] Muslims became involved in national life after the 1943 pact wherein they recognized Lebanon as an entity for the first time. The pact is now being threatened. Do you consider this a threat to Muslims and especially Sunni Muslims?

[Answer] During the time of the Islamic Ottoman Caliphate Lebanon did not exist as a constitutional and a political entity. This is a historical fact. If political conditions after the fall of the caliphate made Muslims recognize that Lebanese entity, knowing that, it is not proper to charge that their first recognition of this Lebanese entity came in 1943 as though they had been reluctant to recognize Lebanon at a time when others had recognized it.

The Arab movement which was sharpened by the fall of the caliphate brought Lebanese Muslims and Christians together in the same position and at the same time. It was after that that the notion of an entity emerged, and Muslims expressed their loyalty to it just as Christians did.

This is a point that I will not let go easily because bringing it up diminishes the historical loyalty Muslims have had for Lebanon. The statement that the 1943 Pact is now threatened is true. We must all be knowledgeable in facing this fact, and we must not be fearful. Instead, we must consider the reasons for that threat. If we are not able to make out these reasons so we can remedy them, and if we are not able to admit to them so we can face them, then we are not worthy of Lebanon, this country that has been a model and an example.

There is only one reason why the pact is being threatened. This is the fact that the pact is a divisive sectarian pact, that pits Muslims opposite Christians.

It seems that this sectarian structure relied in a logical way on the practices of this political sectarianism itself. These practices impaired the pact further in a manner by which political, military, economic, administrative and social sectarian privileges increased for the benefit of a particular sect, or more correctly, for the benefit of a specific group of this particular sect. This occurred at the expense of those who were left in that sect and also at the expense of other Muslim and Christian sects.

We are saying that this outcome is logical because logic states that poor premises can only lead to worse outcomes.

Therefore, the fact that the pact is being threatened today is normal and logical. It may be in the interests of Lebanon that we all recognize this threat and deal with it immediately with reason and logic, with cooperation and understanding.

If the sectarian preliminaries of 1943 did produce the sectarian results [that we've had] throughout the period since that date and until 1982, this means that it would be sensible and sincere that the preliminaries upon which post 1982 Lebanon ought to be built be Lebanese and non-sectarian.

The interests of all the Lebanese people, and chiefly Sunni Muslims, lie here. I am referring to having an awareness of the reasons that threatened the pact, recognizing those reasons and working on the basis of the fact that a future, non-sectarian Lebanon is the only hope and refuge that all the Lebanese people should have without distinction and discrimination.

[Question] How do you envision Lebanon after [the departure of] the Palestinians? Will Lebanon have its present balance, or will that balance change? [If it does change], in whose interest will it be?

[Answer] I suggest that you substitute the word, "Israelis," for the word, "Palestinians," in your question. You will then discover along with me that the problem which is threatening the balance in Lebanon is that of the Israeli occupation.

As far as the Palestinians are concerned, Lebanon will continue to be Lebanon as it was before the Palestinians came to it, while they were in it and after their departure from it. Lebanon ought to continue to be a balanced country, a country that provides a broad field of equal opportunity and equality for all its citizens under the regime.

This is the principle that we are intent upon.

As far as reality is concerned, the balance of Lebanon in 1943 and in subsequent years was lost in 1975 and in subsequent years. To us this means that sectarian balance is not balance because it is a balance of time bombs, and bombs would never build Lebanon.

Furthermore, none of us can predict the next form that the regime will assume, nor can anyone of us predict the next balancing act in Lebanon.

Our mission is to call attention to the fact that the present balance ought to change from one between the sects to a balance between the Lebanese that would realize Lebanon's supreme interests and ensure a strong Lebanese entity to provide opportunities for all Lebanese citizens to play their constructive cultural role. I believe that in making this shift--from a sectarian balance to a Lebanese national balance--Lebanese sects and the role they play in Lebanon will not be abolished.

Religious sects must survive under a non-sectarian, democratic political regime. Under such a regime these religious sects may be able to create [for themselves] a greater measure of freedom. They would then liberate themselves from the exploitation of others who use them for political ends in every field. These religious sects can then present Lebanon's unique appearance to the world.

It is my opinion that qualitative and radical shifts must take place in this regard. There has to be a shift from political sectarianism to religious sectarianism and from sectarian politics to democratic politics. We would thus have placed everything in its place, and we would have taken steps toward establishing the foundations of faith in One God and revealing the meaning of charity and beauty in people's hearts. In other words, this would restore balance and impartiality to the hearts of all the Lebanese people--these hearts that were ravaged by political sectarianism which treated religion as a commodity to be sold during election seasons and even in the marketplace on a daily basis.

[Question] Why have all the attempts that you sponsored to bring together all the Muslim leaders failed, as was the case in the past also more than once?

[Answer] The problem here does not lie in the fact that Muslim leaders are being brought together under our sponsorship or without our sponsorship. The question ought to be confined to bringing Muslim leaders together. This is the essence of the question.

I will say here that Muslim leaders did meet in 'Armun during the period when establishment of local councils was being called for. They also met before that and after that in 'Armun and in Dar al-Fatwa. At any rate, Islam is a monotheistic religion. Unifying the nation is [our] duty, as God Almighty says, "Your religion is but one religion, and I am your only Lord: therefore fear Me" [al-Mu'minun: 52].

If there are reasons making some people refrain from agreeing to a meeting of Muslim leaders, others will have to understand these reasons and try to remove them so as to make it easier for Muslim leaders to agree today on one position and one word. In asking this of Muslim leaders, we also ask it of Christian leaders who are also divided and cannot be brought together without difficulty. Therefore, I prefer in this case that all [the leaders], Christians and Muslims, meet together as Lebanese citizens for the purpose of delivering Lebanon. No efforts are being made by the Lebanese people today for the deliverance of Lebanon, but how would it be if the effort came from a prominent leader?

[Question] Your appeal for coexistence between Muslims and Christians was evident in the address you made on the feast. What are the greatest obstacles preventing the Lebanese people from complying with this appeal?

[Answer] I have not noticed any obstacles whatsoever in the Lebanese people's response in general to this appeal. All the Lebanese people are inclined [to favor] this coexistence that I am calling for. At any rate, this call is not a new one from me. I have been intent on emphasizing it on every occasion because it stems from our Islamic faith. When I say this, I mean that all Muslims are bound by their religion to observe this coexistence. However, the greatest obstacle remains in the fact that some politicians are inclined to exploit this appeal in a political and a feudal manner that would hurt the unity of Lebanon and its supreme interests.

[Question] The mufti of Lebanon serves all Muslims: Sunnis, Shi'ites and Druzes. There are, however, rather salient denominational rifts on the scene in Lebanon. What have you and the other leaders of the various Islamic denominations done in your small circles and in broader ones as well to make the voice of unity reign supreme either among Muslims or among Muslims and Christians in general?

[Answer] I think that all our positions during the past 7 years and during the most complicated crises of those years affirmed that we were quite clearly leaning toward unity. Regarding the denominational rifts that you say are rather salient on the scene in Lebanon, I understand that you are referring to political rifts between some members of denominations or sects. This is true. One political position has followers from all denominations and positions, and the opposite position also has followers from all sects and denominations. For example, the political position of the Lebanese Front, which is the political Maronite Front, includes followers, even from outside the sect, albeit they are a minority, who are Sunni, Shi'ite and Druze Muslims. The opposite political position of the National Movement, the Islamic Grouping and the Front for the Preservation of the South--and this is the political Islamic position--includes followers both on the inside and on the outside who are Maronite Christians, Greek Orthodox and Catholics. Thus, these salient rifts on the Lebanese scene are, as you see, political rifts and not denominational or sectarian rifts. To me, they are not rifts, but rather positive factors that must be put to good use. This can be done by handling these factors with political savvy as factors that could realize a genuine balance between political movements that harbor sectarian tendencies. Dealing knowledgeably with this reality then ought to be done by dealing with the political aspect and not with the sectarian aspect of these two tendencies. Accordingly, rifts can be turned into bridges. The first political position expresses a certain political trend that has many Christian supporters and a small number of Muslim supporters. The second political position expresses a certain political trend that has many Muslim supporters and a relatively large number of Christian supporters. Thus, it would be possible to come out with a democratic composition that illustrates these two political trends. This composition by itself can provide unity for Lebanon and for the Lebanese people.

8592

CSO: 4404/662

BRIEFS

NEW NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR--At 1000 [0800 GMT] today, President Ilyas Sarkis received the credentials of (Segar John Joseph Baron Van Forst Notforst) as ambassador extraordinary of Netherlands to Lebanon, in the presence of the foreign minister and senior protocol officials of the Republican Palace and the Foreign Ministry. [Text] [NC081524 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Sep 82]

AID TO LEBANON--The Foreign Ministry was today informed by Lebanese Ambassador to India Rabi'ah Maydar that the Indian Government has decided to offer \$104,000 in aid to the higher relief organization in Lebanon. The ministry has also been notified that the UN representative for refugee affairs in Italy, Usamah al-Qadiri, has offered \$150,000 to be distributed among 300 needy Lebanese students, in response to contacts held by the Lebanese Embassy in Rome. The Foreign Ministry has likewise been informed that the Yugoslav Red Cross has offered humanitarian aid to Lebanon via Cyprus, consisting of medicines, surgical instruments and artificial respiratory equipment. [Text] [NC101802 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 10 Sep 82]

CSO: 4400/493

ANNIVERSARY OF REVOLUTION PROMPTS PROGRESS REVIEW

Compulsory Education

Vallette JAMAHIRIYA MAIL in English 4 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] •THE situation of education in the Jamahiriya today contrasts very sharply with that of former times. Whilst under the Turkish occupation schooling was largely ignored, under the Italian occupation matters were even worst as every effort was made to repress the people's awareness of their Arab heritage.

After nominal independence in 1951, ninety per cent of the population was still illiterate, education was restricted to specific areas and to few people, ordinary houses were leased and used as schools. School teachers were scarce and schools had never been built in remote or interior areas. No secondary schools for girls existed and whilst Secondary school teachers numbered 25, there were no female primary school teachers. Only 14 Libyans held university degrees. It was only four years later that the country's first university was set up in Benghazi with a staff of eleven teachers and 31 students. Some time later faculties of the University of Libya were established in Tripoli and in 1957 an Islamic University was founded at Beida.

But then with the advent of the First of September Revolution of 1969 all this started to be changed. Indeed the transformation of the Jamahiriya's education system has been on a scale unprecedented in history. With the conviction that education is a basic human right an unparalleled expansion of educational opportunities has taken place in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Education is now compulsory up to secondary stage and the first full decade of the Revolution saw increases in the availability of all types of education ranging from 123 per cent to a staggering 3,124 per cent, which included 3,608 schools of all types teaching a million students. From 270,617, the number of elementary pupils rose to 604,090; that at preparatory schools from 29,181 to 201,211 and secondary students from 7,181 to 28,139.

College Enrollment

Vallette JAMAHIRIYA MAIL in English 4 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] With the progress in industrial and technological development, technical training colleges came into being and enrolment soared to 7,553. A massive shift towards equality of educational opportunity for girls with 284,000 now being taught as opposed to just 88,000 in 1968 and the comparatively modest increase in boys under tuition from 182,000 to 314,000. Whilst Traditional Islamic schools also increased their students from 11,646 to 34,186.

The educational sector of the 1981-1982 transformation plan aims at increasing the number of classes from 1,578 to 2,800. In fact, 548 of these new classes are already under construction whilst it is planned that the number of teachers at this stage will increase from 3,470 to 6,524.

All figures that reflect the whole tincture of the Jamahiriya's great achievements in this impor-

tant educational sector. Besides progress was done in the provision of specialised education such as teacher training (Libyan teachers now make up about 90% of the teaching staff in primary education) so necessary to cope with the unprecedented volume of students and the adult literacy programme aimed at most elderly people who never enjoyed the opportunity of education before the First of September Revolution and the era of the masses.

Roads, Transport

Vallette JAMAHIRIYA MAIL in English 4 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] •THE planned development programmes have required the movement overland of ever greater volumes of goods while rocketing living standards have been accompanied by sharp rises in the levels of personal car ownership.

So as to avert traffic congestion in city centres, ring roads are being built all around the country's major towns. The Jamahiriya has also launched a vast project for the development of roads and for the opening of new ones. In fact, the different regions of the country are at present connected by a network of paved roads approximately 21,175 kilometres long.

The Five Year Plan has allocated a sum of LD429,495,000 to the transport and communications sector for the construction of the road network alone. A number of major and minor roads are being constructed at a cost of 460.2 million dinars covering a total length of 5,000 kilometres. A plan for

another group of major side roads covering a length of around 2,940 kilometres is also being taken in hand. A 247 kilometre road, to run from Sirte – about midway between Tripoli and Benghazi – to Waddan in

the South is being built by a South Korean Company.

Contracts have also been effected with foreign companies (Hungarian) for the construction and running of a bus assembly plant to cost \$2.5 million, which is to have an annual output of 600 buses. This is the second such plant in the Jamahiriya, the other one which assembles Flat vehicles is located at Tajoura near Tripoli. There are also two other vehicle assembly plants, one for tractors, the other for trucks.

But the major undertaking with regard to transport and travelling in the Jamahiriya is surely the building of a railway network. Plans are already in hand for this long awaited project. According to these plans the railway will run westwards from Tripoli on a 500 kilometre line. Then there will be another 800 kilometre mile linking Sebha with Misurata. Tripoli and Misurata are to be linked through a third line, 210 kilometres long.

Vallette JAMAHIRIYA MAIL in English 4 Sep 82 p 9

[Text] •THE aim of the Al-Fateh Revolution with regard to industry was that production should first satisfy the needs of the masses mainly in food, clothing and construction materials as well as that of heavy metal industries. Before the First of September Revolution in 1969 industrial investment was just four per cent of income even though revenues from oil increased twelve-fold reaching LD619 million between 1962-1969. But then in 1970 the budget for industry was increased giving staunch financial backing to the three year development plan of 1973-75. The value of total investment during the period of the plan reached approximately 2670.3 million dinars with the major productive sectors of the economy receiving large portions. In fact, 27.6% were allocated to the sectors of industry and energy while some 16.4% went to the agricultural sector.

After the success of this plan which was beneficial not only for the economic sector but also for injecting in the Libyan Arab a new pride in his capability of achieving success for him and his country. This faith in the workings of the Revolution led the Libyans to invest bigger sums - 7,840 million Libyan dinars for the next five-year Transformation Plan of 1976-80. A new but important fact in the allocation of these vast sums was that while only 2.5% of the total went to the oil sector, non-oil economic activities were allotted 97.5%.

These allocations are now bearing their good fruit. The commodities now being produced range from petrochemicals to food, from cement to tobacco, from metal to glass products from textiles and leather to electrical goods. These industries and others have provided not only employment for all citizens but also given out annual wages at an average of LD1800 (about £3000) per man woman and child. There

are now no jobless marchers in the Jamahiriya. Unemployment is nil. Rather mainly because of its fast growing populations and vacancies especially for skilled man-power which out numbers available workers, the Jamahiriya's planners have to depend on expatriates who are flocking to Libya from the surrounding Arab countries and from farther away.

With regard to exports the heavy industrial sector has received considerable priority in the determination to gain the maximum benefit from

the precious oil reserves. Wisely the Jamahiriya is limiting its export of crude oil and is concentrating on exporting the products of its own petrochemical industry. To this end another new refinery and petrochemical complex is being built at Ras Lanuf which is planned to be even bigger than the oil refinery at Zawia which exports 50 per cent of its output.

This industrial revolution also caters for the production of skilled workers. To this end six industrial education institutes conduct instructions to 3,000 students per year. Graduates pass on to one of two industrial training centres (capacity 550 trainees) or into one of five planned sub-centres. Some of these graduates are also sent to specialize their knowledge abroad.

NATURAL CHANGES IN FISH CROP AFFECT CANNING INDUSTRY

Casablanca LA VIE ECONOMIQUE in French 23 Jul 82 pp 1,4,10

[Text] At its annual general assembly, the National Association of Canning Industries, ASONAP, carried out a complete study of the market and the results. Here are the broad lines of this report.

The progress of the past campaign scarcely differs from that of the preceding ones, although the overall results have shown some slight progress. The manufacturers have had to overcome the same difficulties and endure the same handicaps.

If we consider the industrial fishing statistics for the three major ports, Safi, Agadir and Essaouira, we note that in 1980-81 the total catch was 247,595 tons as against 204,665 tons in 1979-80, or an increase in tonnage of 21 percent.

But the share committed to canning represents, in the same campaigns, only 99,600 tons in 1980-81 as against 97,630 in the preceding one, or an increase of only 2.05 percent.

From these significant figures, two major remarks may be made that characterize the fish canning sector.

1. Less than half of the fish supply is destined for the canning industry, the rest being delivered in large part to the factories producing by-products. This is because of the irregularity of fishing, which is in itself a seasonal industry, and because of the quality of the fish, brought on board the boats in bulk without any means of preservation.
2. The fairly appreciable increase in the total catch was achieved to the detriment of the quality, since the tonnages delivered to the canning factories remained practically the same.

With regard to the 1981-82 campaign (campaigns begin in July and end the following June), complete fishing statistics are not yet ready. However, if during the second half of 1981, supplies were normal, the first half of 1982 registered as a very poor period, bringing to mind the worst fishing years known to date.

It is still too early to form an opinion on the question of the campaign which is beginning, but it can be said that it is already in jeopardy, and the most optimistic canners are beginning to be concerned.

On the production level, the 1980-81 campaign was quite satisfactory in relation to the preceding one. Production increased in quantity, but the relative share of "extra" and "standard" products dropped appreciably, which adversely affected deliveries to EEC markets and to France in particular.

The production profile is as follows:

For the 1980-81 campaign (from July to June), we have noted the following figures (per unit of 100 boxes, 1/4 club 30 size): sardines: 2,799,000 cartons; mackerel: 189,000 cartons; tuna and others: 126,000 cartons; or a total of 3,114,000 cartons, of which 54.08 percent was produced in Safi, 34.83 percent in Agadir, 7.76 percent in Essaouira, and 3.33 percent in Casablanca.

The increase noted last year at the fishing and production level was followed partially by a sales increase. Thus in 1980-81, 2,660,500 cartons of sardines were exported as against 2,453,370 cartons in the preceding campaign, or an improvement of 8.45 percent.

This increase is explained by the cumulative total of contracts from the Eastern countries, which amounted to 360,000 cartons in 1980-81 as against only 40,000 cartons in the preceding campaign; while sales to Europe dropped by 13.16 percent, going from 1.1 million to 920,000 cartons.

With regard to the 1981-82 fiscal year, it is still too early to know the export data.

To sum up, we can say that on the whole, the preceding campaign was satisfactory, but that the one now in progress looks unpromising.

These findings call for certain observations.

Thus, the increase in the supply of fish in the last campaign is not the result of a modernization of the existing fleet or of an increase in its capacities.

It is very simply a question of one of those fishing seasons just above the normal, as is the case every 3 to 5 years. Furthermore, the ensuing scarcity, this year, proves, as if it were necessary, how incapable our industry is of getting out of its artisanal framework and of equipping itself to go beyond the fluctuations of a narrow coastal strip.

The creation, last year, of a ministry of fishing was welcomed with legitimate satisfaction by those in the trade, who hoped to see this ministry finally define the broad options of fishing and decide on a development program for the sector.

As for ASONAP, it has not failed to assure the new minister of its full collaboration in helping him achieve these objectives. It has given him an exhaustive report on the situation, suggesting constructive and realistic solutions.

The canners think that they should allow the new minister some time to study all the problems coming up so that he may be able to work out a long-term policy on solid foundations.

ASONAP considers that a clearly defined policy and a clear and coherent orientation on the part of the government with regard to coastal fishing will be a stabilizing and encouraging factor prompting the manufacturers to develop their investments and to take risks for the future. There is no need to recall that this sector includes important and promising potential, and there are several manufacturers in the sector who firmly believe in this and have confidence in the future, despite the numerous difficulties that they must overcome in the present.

The Cost of Production

During the last two campaigns, production factors experienced successive price increases that could not be included entirely in the selling price. The item that greatly overshadows all the others is that of packaging.

The price of empty boxes has more than doubled in 6 years, going from 18.70 to 59 dirhams.

Apart from internal decisions, the canners say, it is regrettable to note that when there is a rise in the parity of the dollar and the franc, the suppliers of tin increase their prices; when it goes down they do not reduce them, and when all is said and done, it is the end product that invariably makes up for the difference. Purchases of this raw material, they conclude, should be made in a less fluctuating currency.

A series of other increases has raised the cost of production.

Thus, from June 1980 to June 1982, the price of sardines underwent two increases, one of 8.25 percent and the other of 9 percent, going from 0.85 dirham to 0.90 dirham and then to 1 dirham per kilogram, this also without any improvement in the quality of the fish consigned to the canning factories.

Labor benefited by two increases, one of 20 percent in May 1981 and another of 15 percent in May 1982.

Still according to this same report, the other items, production costs, energy, various products, also experienced substantial increases.

A recent study by the price commission disclosed that the selling price of a carton of canned sardines is rising this year by 8 to 10 percent, exceeding the average selling price in Africa by 10.80 to 12 percent, taking into consideration only the increases in items whose prices are fixed by the administration, representing 84 percent of the selling price as a whole, and reducing the other items to the utmost.

Present circumstances in European markets do not allow for the achievement of a sufficient surplus to make up for this operating deficit. The canners state

that their profit margin will not be assured if the selling price structure remains as rigid and if marketing methods and means remain unchanged.

Analysis of the European market data shows that our sales are very much on the decline. In France, our support market, sales have barely exceeded 300,000 cartons on the average in the last two campaigns, while a few years ago, our exports there exceeded 800,000 cartons. The German and English markets have also declined appreciably. As to our former customers, Italy and Greece, they have become active suppliers of canned sardines to the countries of the Community, taking an increasingly important share of the market away from Morocco.

From now on, these producers will enjoy substantial assistance from the EEC, which is intervening from above at the level of the purchase, transportation and storage of fresh fish. The notion of a minimum price is no longer valid. Even if its application in Morocco is postponed, the European producer has already offered a competitive product, even if it is of inferior quality. This is offset, moreover, by the quality of the marketing service, facilitated by the proximity of the sales outlets and by an expanded network of communications. In brief, two assets which the Moroccan exporter lacks.

The industry has tried to react in order to take back its share of the market, particularly in France, where a promotional action vis-a-vis the purchasers was undertaken. But, in execution, the results were disappointing for several reasons, of which the two major ones were:

- a lack of coordination between customers, the OCE [Marketing and Export Office] and the suppliers,

- a lack, in some cases, of "France quality" merchandise.

This promotional action was to precede a large-scale publicity campaign. Negotiations to that end were started with a specialized firm and a draft contract was completed. This could not be put in concrete form because of certain reservations. It was then preferable to undertake, first, an exhaustive study of the market; the project is underway.

The handicaps to our exports are only worsening.

During the National Economic Days held with government participation in Casablanca last April, the industry took the opportunity to explain all the problems paralyzing the development of this industrial sector. A detailed report on the situation was given to the preparatory commission and a complete file was placed in the hands of the ad hoc committee.

Among the measures requested, particular emphasis was placed on the following:

- the need to define broad options and directions with regard to the development of halieutic resources,

- planning and organizing of canning production at the national level by general canning establishments,

--the necessity of leaving to the producers full and complete responsibility for direct marketing of their products,

--promoting exports by eliminating all administrative obstacles and by setting up systems to stimulate and encourage exports,

--promoting the domestic market with the help of a reduction in the tax burden.

Production of Canned Fish--1980-81 Campaign

<u>City</u>	<u>Sardines</u>	<u>SPSA*</u>	<u>Mackerel</u>	<u>Tuna</u>	<u>Misc.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Safi estimated**	1,463,743 (512,638)	15,849 --	154,263 (24,425)	39,751 (3,937)	3,561 --	1,677,167 (541,000)
Agadir estimated**	1,079,459 (962,000)	--	8,535	--	--	1,087,995 (962,000)
Essaouira	237,248	--	3,709	2,243	1,600	244,800
Casablanca	2,638	--	22,557	46,514	32,395	104,104
Total estimated**	2,783,088 (1,474,638)	15,849	189,065 (24,425)	88,508 (3,937)	37,556	3,114,066 (1,503,000)

*[expansion unknown]

**Estimates correspond to quantities undeclared by certain producers.

Canned Fish Exports

<u>Canned Fish</u>	<u>Quantities</u>		<u>Value</u>	
	<u>1979-80 Campaign</u>	<u>1980-81 Campaign</u>	<u>1979-80 Campaign</u>	<u>1980-81 Campaign</u>
Sardines	2,453,371	2,660,505	264,000	318,270
Tuna	18,400	42,000	3,700	9,540
Anchovies	235,400	242,000	40,975	58,340
Mackerel	247,000	329,000	30,530	48,140
Totals	2,954,171	3,273,505	339,205	434,290

1980-81 Campaign--Canned Foods

	<u>Cities</u>			
	<u>Agadir</u>	<u>Safi</u>	<u>Essaouria</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Sardines				
Factory suitable	19,413,514	17,175,721	16,853,737	53,442,972
Unsuitable	14,535,145	5,314,306	9,470,629	29,320,080
Total	33,948,659	22,490,027	26,324,366	82,763,052
Mackerel	10,020,125	208,128	47,450	10,275,703
Tuna	1,140	1,873,359	--	1,874,499
Scad and others	89,364	721,606	3,799,482	4,610,452
Total canned food	44,059,288	25,293,120	30,171,298	99,523,706
By-products	124,997,530	6,639,688	11,724,213	143,361,433
Freezing	4,024,937	--	685,826	4,710,763
General total	173,081.70	31,932.80	42,581.80	247,595.90

9434

CSO: 4519/273

OMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DENOUNCES BEIRUT CARNAGE

GF201832 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Text] An official spokesman for the Omani Foreign Affairs Ministry has noted that the sultanate of Oman strongly denounces the barbaric massacres which Israel has committed and is still committing together with its allies against the unarmed Palestinian refugees who are old men, children and women in the camps of Sabra and Shatila in West Beirut. The official spokesman pointed out that these mass massacres which were committed and are still being committed against the Palestinians are in clear violation of the UN rules and legitimacy requirements which were approved by the world peoples in the UN charter. Furthermore, they are a grave development, a flagrant violation of the spirit of peace and represent an intensification of tension and instability in the area.

The spokesman reviewed the mass massacres of the Palestinian people by the occupation authorities in Dayr Yasin and Kafr Qasim. The spokesman added that Israel's invasion of West Beirut and its mass massacre of the unarmed Palestinian refugees who are old men, women and children, comes within the framework of the aggressive and expansionist policy which the Israeli occupation authorities have become accustomed to practicing against civilians, thus challenging all moral and human values and international laws.

The official spokesman called for an end to all military operations in West Beirut in particular and in Lebanon in general, and for the immediate withdrawal of Israel in order to preserve Lebanese sovereignty and avert further intensification of the situation and to protect the lives of the innocent civilians and their property. The official spokesman of the Foreign Affairs Ministry urged the world leaders, the countries that were in charge of evacuating the Palestinian combatants from West Beirut, world public opinion and international and human institutions to shoulder their responsibilities fully at this critical stage and stop the inhuman and savage massacre of the Palestinian refugees. The spokesman also called for adoption of urgent and serious measures to stop this horrible massacre.

CSO: 4400/501

BUDGET CUTS RULED OUT

Muscat OMAN DAILY OBSERVER in English 30 Aug 82 p 2

[Article by: Nic Hammes]

[Text] **OMAN is not "slashing its Government budgets" — and that's official.**

Despite a lower-than-expected allocation for fiscal 1982, and widespread rumours that Government appropriations were to be, or are being cut, the fact is simply that the oil-price drop has forced a relatively modest budget for next year on the planners — while this year's allocations will not be adjusted.

"We are the Government financial body: we do not change our budgets once decided," says Mohammed Moosa, Under-Secretary at the Directorate-General of Finance.

The effect of the drop in oil prices has been felt mainly in next year's budget and seen in a circular now on Ministers' desks explaining why 1983 will not see any increase in operating budgets — classified in the official statistics as "Capital and Recurrent Expenditure."

The realities of Oman as a carefully developing nation, explained Mr Moosa, dictate cash accounting systems, unlike the

sophisticated and often bewildering money-flow structures of industrialised nations, whose finances move in and out of the country's institutions and businesses with mind-boggling complexity and speed.

Capital expenditure in Oman carries with it carefully planned, commensurate payments for recurrent expenditures like wage costs, in contrast to developed countries where capital payments in pursuit of ever-growing expansion are separated from the recurrent payments needed to maintain facilities.

In support of the Government and Finance Department's success in achieving current economic objectives, planners point to the fact that there has been very little deviation from the financial goals in the Five Year Plan.

And, they say, the diversification away from oil is going as well, if not better than expected.

Income in non-oil sectors last financial year increased in some cases between 30-40 per cent over the previous year, although their size in relation to petroleum revenues is comparatively small.

Even in agriculture and fisheries — important, though traditionally difficult develop-

ment areas — the growth was 10 per cent.

"Most important is that this sector is keeping up," said Under-Secretary Moosa of the vital backbone of Oman's self-sufficiency programme.

Food self-sufficiency is much more than a catchphrase in Government planning, with the political will behind the idea expressed as a massive OR140 million grant to the fundamental economic sector — excluding the infrastructure facilities of roads, power and water supply.

Marketing facilities, too, are not included in the direct-grant figure, though they are a vital part of sustaining motivation and interest in farming and fishing.

Like the light industries currently being developed, most noticeably at Rusail, they are a basic part of an economy looking realistically towards a sustainable future.

And the Finance Directorate, in its planning and budgets, knows that very well.

No-one, of course, is happy with the drop in world oil prices, which have meant a large shortfall in expected revenues.

A shortfall of OR87 million was expected and OR116 million has already been secured in

"soft" loans from Gulf Arab funds, industrial Governments export credit and other develop-

ment loans.

Meanwhile, the Finance Directorate expects up to OR116 million will need to be borrowed. But the country's record of prompt payments to contractors and sound financial housekeeping will cause no embarrassment in relationships with international institutions.

The Sultanate has maintained good relations with its suppliers from the start of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos' reign, with contractors paid promptly and in full via a computerised system that now handles some 12,000 payments per month.

The Sultan's Finance Decree of 1974 slightly altered methods of ratifying contracts and payment, so that now a smooth and standardised operation sees any contract worth more than OR¼ million checked with the Diwan for Legal Affairs before signature.

Learning from other Gulf Arab states' mistakes, the Finance Directorate removed the old system of inflation-accounting, which could add millions to contracts, and substituted a fixed-price but no-squabbles payment system.

Under the new scheme, con-

tractors for long-running projects who completed more than their allocated work for a given timespan are paid in full, without argument, allowing greater planning flexibility to both sides.

"It has proved an enormously beneficial system", said Mr Moosa.

Of course, it may be a little more expensive in some instances than the old system, but in that way it's like an insurance policy.

"It's certainly proved a fair deal for both sides and everyone, of course, has great confidence in the Government because of it".

The same no-nonsense approach has paid off in keeping development expenses down. While "spin-off" expenses attached to development work — new men to man new machines to help save more labour for new men, in the classic example — can be an enormous addition to any Government budget, they are kept in the Sultanate to a minimum by good planning.

"We can forecast almost exactly, when a project is one of 12 to 18 months", says Mr Moosa.

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PDRY DECLARES 3-DAY OFFICIAL MOURNING PERIOD

GF201719 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Text] The PDRY has declared a 3-day official mourning period throughout the republic as of tomorrow, Tuesday, 21 September, and has decided to cancel the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the 26 September Revolution and the 19th anniversary of the 14th October Revolution in expression of our Yemeni people's participation with the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in their painful and sanguine crisis and in their just struggle against the Zionist occupation in order to achieve the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people and safeguard the national sovereignty of our Arab peoples.

This was announced by an official spokesman who issued the following statement: Our country, its party, people and government are living a state of anxiety, anger and sorrow due to the aggressive Zionist military invasion of Lebanon and the resulting savage destruction of civilian quarters, mass annihilation of tens of thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese citizens and mass banishment of hundreds of thousands of afflicted families under the influence of air, ground and sea bombardment of fatal and internationally prohibited weapons. The ugliness of the crimes that were committed in Lebanon is aggravated by that Zionist massacre in the Palestinian camps of West Beirut following the invasion of the western sector of Beirut city by the Zionist and isolationist forces. Thousands of unarmed innocent men, women, children and old people fell victims. To this massacre which indicates the extent of the fascist nature and moral degradation of the Zionist entity and its isolationist agents, who violate the most basic human rights that the civilized world has been struggling to defend and safeguard.

While the PDRY shares the feelings of anger and denunciation of these savage crimes with our Arab masses and the world's public opinion, it has been decided to declare general mourning for a 3-day period throughout the republic as of tomorrow, Tuesday, 21 September, the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the 26 September Revolution and the 19th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution will be cancelled as an expression of our Yemeni people's participation with the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in their just struggle against the Zionist occupation in order to achieve the legitimate rights of the Arab Palestinian people and safeguard the national sovereignty of our Arab peoples.

CSO: 4400/501

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PDRY POPULAR ORGANIZATIONS DENOUNCE MASSACRE

GF201713 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Text] Work was stopped for half an hour at 1200 today in all work and production institutions in the PDRY in protest against the inhumane actions and massacres that are being executed by the Zionist invaders and their allies. The dimensions, goals and implications of the imperialist plans and conspiracies which are being plotted against the Palestinian and Lebanese people were explained during this period. This protest comes in response to a request made yesterday by brother Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO executive committee, to all the Arab countries to denounce the Zionist massacres of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

The popular organizations in our country today issues a statement denouncing the barbaric massacres that are being carried out by the Zionist and terrorist forces against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. They also stressed their fixed and principled support for the heroic struggle that is being waged by the Lebanese national movement and the Palestinian resistance against the Zionist aggression. They reaffirmed support for the right method of the YSP in [word indistinct] and supporting the struggling steadfastness of the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. The popular organizations in our country urged the masses of the Arab peoples and the national and progressive regimes in the (?Arab arena) to ascend to the level of the historic responsibility in confronting the annihilation war that is being waged against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples. [passage indistinct]

CSO: 4400/501

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

PDRY CHAIRMAN RECEIVES FIDEL CASTRO'S CABLE

GF221846 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 22 Sep 82

[Text] 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, YSP political bureau member, vice chairman of the presidium of the PDRY Supreme People's Council and first deputy prime minister, received a cable that was sent by Fidel Castro, secretary general of the Cuban Communist Party and president of the Councils of State and ministers in the Socialist Republic of Cuba, to brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the central committee, chairman of the presidium of the Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, in which he reports on the consultations he held with the presidents and heads of state of the member countries of the nonalignment movement and their agreement that New Delhi will be the venue for the 7th nonalignment conference.

In his cable, Castro calls on the states to work during the next 4 months to guarantee the success of the 7th summit and to bolster the unity and effectiveness of the nonalignment movement. He indicates that the conference will be the basis for mutual solidarity and support during future years and for a response to urgent questions, particularly the reinforcement of peace, bolstering the independence and sovereignty of our countries and securing our economic and social development.

CSO: 4400/501

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

BRIEFS

CHAIRMAN GREETSAUDI OFFICIALS--Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has sent congratulatory cables to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia and Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and deputy prime minister, on Saudi National Day. The secretary general wished them good health and happiness, progress and flourishing for their people, development of relations between the two countries and victory for the Arab nation in its struggle against its enemies. [Text] [GF22154 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Sep 82]

CSO: 4400/501

SAUDI STATEMENT CONDEMNS 'BARBARIC CRIME' IN BEIRUT CAMPS

LD181902 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Text] Information Minister Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani has stated that the abominable crime which was committed in Beirut today and whose victims have been thousands of Palestinian children, women, old men and unarmed persons in the camps of Sabra and Shatila, for no crime or guilt of their own, was premeditated and deliberate. As foreign correspondents described the incident, men who were either old or wounded were made to stand against a wall and were deliberately killed. Then they (the killers) turned on women and children, whom they shot in the head. They showed no mercy at the cries of the children or the appeals of the mothers. They persisted in their deliberate killing, and then they turned on the injured and killed them without mercy.

The information minister added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia regards this a barbaric crime and inhuman behavior for which Israel and those who carried it out shoulder the greatest responsibility. Israel has been behind all this aggression and the bloody events which led to this horrifying inhuman massacre. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia condemns this abominable crime and holds Israel and its allies who carried out this crime and also any one who has taken part in it historically responsible. This is a bloodcurdling crime, and it reminds one of the abominable and ugly crimes which Begin and the Zionists gangs committed in Be'er Sheva' and Deir Yasin where they killed thousands of innocent children, proving these Zionists' thirst for innocent blood.

While we pray God almighty to have mercy on the souls of these martyrs, we implore him to grant us patience and contentment. We also implore him to assist our nation to continue to struggle to repel this brutal aggression. We pray God to grant success to our Palestinian brothers, under the leadership of the PLO, to continue the honorable struggle to restore their legitimate rights and to check this (?evil) clique. We also appeal to the states of the world, when the world bears witness to this abominable crime, to stand by our just cause and to prevent these Zionists from implementing their criminal plans, which seek to annihilate an entire nation.

He added: We stress that this abominable crime, whose victims have been thousands of innocent Palestinians, will only add to our determination to go ahead toward our goal to restore our rights. God is with them, supporting them with a victory from him, giving them his aid and defeating the wrongs of the tyrants. God prevails in his purpose, but most men know that. [Koranic verse]

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI KING SENDS CABLES TO LEBANON'S SARKIS, AL-WAZZAN

LD191352 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has sent the following cable to his excellency the Lebanese president:

Your excellency, president of the Republic of Lebanon, Ilyas Sarkis: In the midst of concentrated efforts with our brothers and the international community, to achieve the withdrawal of Israeli forces from West Beirut, we were surprised with pain in our souls and hearts by the Arab and international reports concerning the massacres which took place Saturday afternoon against the sons of the Palestinian people, residents of the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah refugee camps--women, men and children--at the hands of the Israeli enemy, and by reports of the participation of the forces of the renegade commander, Maj S'ad Haddad, and his followers, the bestiality of which exceeds the imagination of man, having no parallel in the history of people. While we condemn these successive barbaric Israeli actions against the sons of the Lebanese and the Palestinian peoples, we urge your excellency to do all you can to stop these recurring massacres and take all measures necessary to protect the unarmed and peaceable Palestinian civilians in the shadow of the Lebanese law--an undertaking made by the Lebanese delegation to the Fes Summit recently--and to punish severely all those who contribute to this disaster. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia wants to express to your excellency its full readiness to make all possible efforts to cooperation with your excellency to save the lives of the two fraternal peoples and we shall continue efforts for the liberation of Lebanese soil from the tyranny of the Israeli invasion. We also urge all the sons of the Lebanese people to adhere to the highest level of self-restraint and unite around the legitimate authority in such circumstances to spare Lebanon further victims and disasters.

May God assist you and guide you to what is good for sister Lebanon. Please accept our most sincere greetings and wishes for victory and success.

[Signed] Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz also sent the following cable to the prime minister of Lebanon:

Your excellency, the prime minister of Lebanon, Shafiq al-Wazzan: We followed with the deepest feelings of pain and disgust reports by the information media

concerning the human massacres which took place Saturday afternoon against the unarmed Palestinian civilians in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps at the hands of the Israeli invaders with the participation of the Lebanese elements who split from the legitimate authority and who have been cooperating with the enemy--a matter which has made a strong impression on your brothers, the sons of the Saudi people. While we have been trying with all our energies through international quarters to liberate sister Lebanon from the Zionist enemy occupation, we have been surprised by these new disasters against the sons of the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and against mankind and man's dignity. While we express to your excellency the deepest and strongest sentiments of condemnation and disgust at these bestial actions, we urge your excellency and your sincere brothers to do all you can to protect Palestinian camps from this evil tyranny. We shall continue our concentrated efforts with our Arab brothers and with every lover of peace to achieve the withdrawal of the enemy from West Beirut and the whole of Lebanon, to liberate it from the usurping aggressors. We beseech God to give us assistance and success.

[Signed] Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz al Sa'ud

CSO: 4400:502

SAUDI ARABIA

SAUDI KING FAHD CABLES 'ARAFAT ON LEBANON 'MASSACRE'

LD191354 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Sep 82

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz sent the following cable to the PLO chairman:

Your excellency the brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, we have been pained by the tragedy which has befallen our Palestinian civilians residing in the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps and we have received with the most profound feelings of sorrow, pain and denunciation the reports of human massacres which occurred this afternoon at the hands of the Israeli enemy and its supporters who have broken away and reneged against the legitimate authority in Lebanon. We immediately rushed to send two messages to his excellency President Sarkis and his eminence the prime minister of Lebanon about this tragedy, and we have also issued a public statement regarding the matter with which you will be acquainted through the media.

As we express to your excellency our sincere condolences for the martyrs who fell victim to this brutal barbaric massacre, we beseech almighty God to grant them his profound compassion, his extensive heavens, and to grant them and their relatives patience and consolation.

We shall continue our intensive efforts along with our Arab brethren and with every lover of peace and justice in the world to deter the usurping enemy and to secure his immediate withdrawal from Lebanese territory. We shall place all our resources toward preserving the lives of our brethren the Lebanese and Palestinian people, to protect them and to preserve their dignity. We beseech God to grant you and us help and success.

[Signed] Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

CSO: 4400/502

SAUDI MINISTER DISCUSSES PROBLEMS WITH IRANIAN PILGRIMS

LD190210 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 2230 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Text] Jidda, 18 Sep (SPA)--His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn al-'Aziz, the minister of interior, has stressed the attention the government is paying to the study of problems to the pilgrimage and to the needs of the pilgrims. This study draws upon practical experience and on information on the movements of the pilgrims in all pilgrimage areas. His Royal Highness Prince Nayif pointed out the government's great efforts to make it easier for the pilgrims to perform their pilgrim rites and to make them more comfortable.

His Royal Highness Prince Nayif said that the interior ministry wishes that it had never been forced to issue statements about the acts carried out by some Iranian pilgrims. His highness added: We want everything possible to be done to serve those making a pilgrimage to the holy house of God and always to have cooperation between the authorities responsible for the pilgrimage and the pilgrims themselves. But regrettably, some Iranian pilgrims, on instructions from their officials, tried to use the pilgrimage for purposes for which it is not intended. We have experienced these things over the past 3 years and have dealt with them in the way in which they should be dealt with. We explained to the officials in Iran that these activities are unacceptable because they contradict the aims of the pilgrimage and because they are individual political acts that concern a state or the head of a state.

His highness said the Iranian claim that the kingdom differentiates between religion and politics. Not true. His highness explained that the kingdom builds its political, economic and social affairs and development work on the Islamic Shari'ah and that Islam defines the aims and the ways for us. We do not prefer politics to religion or religion to politics; but religion is the basis and the faith is Islam.

CSO: 4400/502

'RIYADH': CONDEMNING ISRAELI AGGRESSION IS NOT ENOUGH

LD182002 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Hashin 'Abduh Hashim commentary]

[Text] To begin with, there is no one who doubts the fact that Lebanon is experiencing a plot which is much graver than merely the entry into West Beirut by the Israeli invading forces. Logically, the timing of the entry by these forces and the manner in which it was carried out show it was one of Israel's aspirations and that Israel was waiting for a suitable opportunity to move into a new phase, and perhaps this has created suitable circumstances to accomplish that phase. In practical terms the Arab and Muslim nation must expect more surprises on Lebanese territory before things settle down.

It is not true that Israel intends to leave West Beirut. After all, Israel would not have taken this step unless its leaders had some vital goals in mind; their departure depends on to what extent these goals are realized. We do not believe that the Israelis have achieved anything significant through the operation to storm West Beirut, unless that is but a step meant to consolidate Israel's negotiating position on its departure from Lebanon, since it is possible that it would trade its departure from West and South Beirut for other gains and undertakings.

Many questions nowadays occur to observers which cast more doubts on another collusion which is intended eventually to make the Israeli presence a new reality which would be inevitably accepted. This twisted logic fools nobody. If the Israelis believe that they will succeed in imposing it on our Lebanese brothers they are dreaming. They are also going too far in their dreams if they believe that the Arabs will ignore a new challenge this time.

The Israelis have been anxious to persist in their intransigent policy. It has become obvious that when they agreed to the latest agreement they had many other things in mind and were making more far-reaching and graver plans. Another thing we would like to assert to Israel and others is that its interference in the internal affairs of an independent country cannot be accepted; equally, the principle of dictating policies, resolutions and stances to the legitimate authority in Lebanon is something which all Lebanese, and behind them all Arabs, reject.

It would be better for Israel to realize that it has made many mistakes and it is time it corrected these mistakes and left Lebanon alone; it should also realize that the Arabs, although they have resorted to conventional methods so as to attain their rights and have expressed these rights and demands through diplomatic channels, also possess other means and are awaiting the appropriate time to use these means should Israel compel them to do so.

It is neither acceptable nor reasonable for the Israelis to continue their brigandage in Lebanon without expecting a violent Arab reaction to liberate Lebanon from their presence on Lebanese territory, and to proceed to further goals and other rights which the Israelis have usurped, but we will not lose our nerve, nor will we submit to the provocative Israeli operations; we will continue our efforts through the contacts of our states with the peace-loving states. Nor will we spare any effort in presenting our case to the Security Council so as to obtain supportive international stances.

If we are not capable, through all these means, of driving Israel from our territories we will have to try other means. The other powers must take other, more positive steps; they must understand how much damage Israel is doing to their reputation and to their stances that call for peace and stability. This is because it is not natural for the Arab states and the United States to meet in their endeavor for peace and for Israel to continue to act in the opposite direction. Nor is it acceptable for stances to be limited to merely condemning the aggression, especially as it has become clear that Israel is trying to frustrate the role of all forces which are seeking peace and to impose its logic, its opinion and its language. Can such logic be accepted? Can one yield to this odd conduct? No one in the Arab world or elsewhere is prepared anymore to accept Israel's encroachments. Therefore we believe that the Arabs should exploit all this speedily and positively so as to benefit by it to the greatest degree.

CSO: 4400/502

'RIYADH' ON FADH'S CALL FOR U.S. TO SHOULDER RESPONSIBILITIES

LD201606 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Hashim Abdu Hashim commentary]

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd's efforts and contacts with the Palestinian and Lebanese brothers, with the U.S. administration and with peaceloving countries in the world have resulted in the formation of a unified public opinion on Israel's ugly crime in the Sabra and Shatila camps. His majesty confirmed to his excellency the Lebanese president, his excellency the Lebanese prime minister and to Yasir 'Arafat that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia places all its resources at the service of the brothers, at a time when it holds the U.S. administration and the Security Council, and behind them the international community, responsible for what has happened and what can happen in Lebanon against unarmed and innocent citizens at the hands of the Israeli forces or renegade forces in collusion with them. This is so because this country will not accept any justifications capable of exempting Israel from responsibility. It will also not deal with any side which does not guarantee the implementation of its undertakings and which does not stand to defend the honor of its guarantees. If the kingdom's angry voice has been extremely sharp and indignant concerning the perpetrators of the crime, it has reached the U.S. administration before others and perhaps it places before U.S. officials new facts with which to understand that nobody in this world can trust any force which does not have the ability to implement its undertakings, which cannot protect its undertakings or prevent the harming of its attitude.

It is true that the U.S. administration has joined with the other Security Council members in denouncing the massacre, condemning Israel and urging it to leave West Beirut quickly allowing UN observers to be deployed in the regions defined for them and allowing the legitimate Lebanese army the right to operate, move and be stationed in the camps to protect the unarmed Palestinian civilians. It is more accurate however that the U.S. is capable of more than this: it can prevent the massacres and the Israeli excesses and can return to Lebanon its security, stability, sovereignty and freedom as an independent country.

While continuing his consultations and contacts with the Lebanese and Palestinian parties concerned, and placing everyone in the picture as regards every move made by his majesty toward the other countries of the world,

foremost the United States, His Majesty King Fahd, doing all this out of his growing feeling of tragedy, confirms that the kingdom cannot accept the method of bargaining. It also cannot accept any justification by any party for not carrying out its undertakings.

We know that any agreement contracted by two parties or more cannot be open to individual interpretations and cannot be exploited as Israel has impudently done. Therefore we are still awaiting from the U.S. attitudes which are clearer and more effective in putting an end to Israel's impudence. Furthermore we still expect the international community to understand the extent of the dangers resulting from what has happened and what is happening. At the same time we appeal to all American people who adhere to morals for more understanding of the truth about the conflict between us and Israel and of the disaster in which it can end, which threatens its country and affects its interests even more than others.

At a time when Israel is working to weaken the U.S. role in the achievement of peace in the region, we notice that wrong calculations are being made within the context of the comprehensive evaluation of events and changes in the region. We want to stress once again that the United States is a country with traditions, morals and position.

Therefore the countries and the peoples of the world ask the U.S. leaders to shoulder their responsibility in full for the preservation of peace, security and stability in the region. The U.S. administration will do well if it deals with the matter from its roots and enters into direct dialogue with the PLO aimed at achieving peace and guaranteeing coexistence among all parties.

However it will be a great mistake if it finds it sufficient to deal with the Palestinian problem from the humanitarian aspect alone, and behave toward Israel as the party which has the greatest part in the achievement of peace and security in the region. Israel is not a state which respects its undertakings; it is not a party to be trusted or with which to agree any arrangements for a just, comprehensive and full peace. If the U.S. administration wants its efforts to succeed in achieving peace it should take measures to reduce Israel's role and retain for itself the influential ability as a superpower and a society assumed to respect human rights and to be hurt to see small nations exposed to sad tragedies as have the population of the Sabra and Shatila camps.

Arab contacts, consultations and meetings now underway confirm the important fact that Arab weakness in the past has been exploited by Israel in such a harsh manner; we must now move in the light of the spirit of the Fes Summit, to exploit the anger of the international community and its indignation against Israel. We must come out of these contacts with an effective Arab action which advances the Fes Summit resolution to the stage of implementation, to confirm that the Palestine problem is one of fate and not merely a problem that can be solved with the passage of time.

SAUDI PRESS DISCUSSES BEIRUT MASSACRE AFTERMATH

LD221330 Riyadh SPA in English 1203 GMT 22 Sep 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 22 Sep (SPA)--A Saudi newspaper today called on the U.S. administration to start a dialogue with the Palestine Liberation to provide a chance to the new Lebanese president to revive national reconciliation.

The Jidda-based 'UKAZ said the administration should revive its plan to end the West Beirut crisis.

"The plan should not be merely confined to the Palestinian departure from West Beirut, but it should also include immediate Israeli troop withdrawal from Lebanon," the paper added.

The paper said the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon would enable the new Lebanese president to "ensure national reconciliation among fighting factions and reconstruct what has been destroyed by Israeli invading forces."

'UKAZ said the U.S. should also "prevent Begin and Sharon from carrying out their joint foolish military action "which in the long run would undermine confidence in the U.S. ability to assume a positive role towards peace and endanger American interests in the Middle East region.

The Mecca-based AN-NADWAH regretted that most Arab states had done nothing to "prevent the massacre of the heroic Palestinian people who resisted all attempts which should have subjugated and forced them to accept settlements, robbing them of their rights."

The paper urged the Arab states to train all Palestinians who [words omitted] because no peaceful co-existence between the Israelis and Palestinians could be realized after what had happened in Shatila and Sabra camps in West Beirut."

AL-JAZIRAH, published here hailed Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's decision to recall his ambassador in Tel Aviv in protest against the Shatila and Sabra massacre committed by the Israeli occupation forces.

The paper said "What is happening between Egypt and Israel requires that Arab states be alert to respond to any Egyptian urgent call to stand beside Egypt in the face of any dangerous development between the two countries as a price for Egyptian renunciation of the Camp David Agreement."

The Jidda-based AL-BILAD noted PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's recent statement in which he lauded the kingdom's support for the Palestinian people and highlighted King Fahd's backing for the Palestinian stand at regional and international forums. The paper said 'Arafat's statement had confirmed to the world one of the dimensions of the Saudi strategy which supported Arab and Islamic efforts to "confront all challenges which seek to undermine Arab and Islamic achievements."

CSO: 4400/502

'RIYADH' COMMENTS ON SAUDI, PALESTINIAN ROLE IN MIDEAST

LD211550 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Hashim Abdu Hashim commentary]

[Excerpt] When Yasir 'Arafat opens his heart to his brother and primary supporter of his people His Majesty King Fahd in the most difficult and darkest circumstances, this confirms the absolute faith of the Palestinian resistance in the Saudi leadership's role in supporting the stance of the heroes and perpetrating their steadfastness until victory is achieved. Moreover the many plots being hatched against the people of Palestine which are exploiting the desire of Arab countries and peoples for peace and stability have uncovered a devious plan aimed at liquidating every Palestinian living on earth in order that nobody remains who could claim the land, insist on the establishment of a Palestinian state and on securing full sovereignty. The criminal massacre committed by the Zionists and their supporters of traitors and hirelings has confirmed that the Israelis did not come to Lebanon with the intention of leaving behind a single Palestinian in Lebanon enjoying life, freedom, movement and existence.

Israel received a great shock when it discovered that the Palestinian resistance forces were too strong to be swept away by its tanks and aircraft. Israel thus resorted to deception in order to give it a way out of the dilemma brought about by its entry into Lebanon and in order to liquidate the Palestinian existence. It is now being asked to leave Lebanon without affecting the power of the Palestinian struggle, harming its military potential or terminating the PLO's ability to take action for the full rights of the Palestinian people. However, the faith of this nation and its confidence in the steadfastness of the Palestinian people will drive it to take vengeance on the murderers and executioners and those in collusion with them or collaborating with their criminal plans.

Although in the past the Arab nation fell into the Israeli deception trap there are many opportunities before the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian people specifically to reply to this criminal action and to rob all the enemies of the chance to repeat this. The multinational forces left Beirut at a time when the Zionists were harboring a very serious matter aimed at the security, stability and future of Lebanon and at the life and presence of the whole Palestinian people, only a few days later the deed was committed which removed all masks and displayed the true policy of deception and punishment of all Palestinians still alive. [passage omitted]

SAUDI PAPERS VIEW BEIRUT 'MASSACRE,' FADH'S POLICY

LD211332 Riyadh SPA in English 1205 GMT 21 Sep 82

[Press review]

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Sep (SPA)--Saudi newspapers today highlighted the importance of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's talks with King Fahd at this "crucial time" which they said required intensive Arab consultations, following the "horrible massacre" of Palestinian refugees in Beirut.

The Jidda-based 'UKAZ said the kingdom had sincerely supported the Palestinian commando movement since the outbreak of the Lebanese crisis.

"The kingdom not only codenamed the massacre but also conducted regional and international contacts to put an end to the Israeli arrogance and utilised all its resources to save the Palestinian and Lebanese brothers," the paper added.

The paper said King Fahd's role at "this difficult time had a great effect on world powers in taking a firm stand against the Zionist enemy."

The Jidda-based 'UKAZ said the "barbaric massacre committed by the Zionist bands against the innocent Palestinians, to be discussed by the Arab League ministerial meeting in Tunis today, is a naked challenge to Arab ability to confront the Zionist terror."

The paper called for speedy implementation of the Arab Fes Summit resolutions, specially the action plan which the summit had adopted to "confront the Zionist vicious aggression on the Arab nation."

AL-JAZIRAH, published here accused the Arab states of being responsible for the Israeli "vicious crime" in West Beirut and also blamed the U.S. for the massacre.

The paper said after the Fes Summit, the Arabs needed only collective actions to implement resolutions adopted.

The Jidda-based AL-BILAD said the Palestinian people had become fully aware of the fact that a "lot of people are trading with their problem.

"The irrefutable facts of the Zionist massacre have placed the whole world before its responsibility towards the barbaric behaviour which Zionism has adopted to liquidate the Palestinian people and cause," the paper added.

The Mecca-based AL-NADWAH called on the Palestinians to resume underground activities to avenge the massacre and face violence in the same manner because this wild world has proved by experience that it does not listen to anyone except the voice of power.

"The Palestinians should plan for a prolonged underground war to disturb the enemy's sleep and deal blows to those who have conspired against the Palestinian people," the paper added.

CSO: 4400/502

BRIEFS

MINISTER VIEWS 'MASSACRES,' SUMMIT--Jidda, 23 Sep (SPA)--The second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz expressed his utmost indignation over the frightening massacres which took place in the Sabra and Shatilah camps. He said that the world community has condemned this heinous crime, and has condemned Israel and whoever took part with it in perpetrating the crime. In a statement to 'UKAZ published today, Prince Sultan stressed America's responsibility regarding this massacre, and its required role to put pressure on Israel. Prince Sultan called on the Arab nation to work for the prevention of a repetition of such a crime. He demanded that the Islamic and Arab nation prove its presence to prevent a violation of its rights. He explained that the Arabs are required to make a decisive stand to regain their rights. He said that the Fes Summit was a natural translation of joint Arab work, an expression of the cooperation and rallying around the nation's issues of destiny; issues which are understood and were strongly, firmly and wisely faced by the leaders in Fes. [Text] [LD230900 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 23 Sep 82]

COMMENTS ON 'ARAFAT'S VISIT--The visit by Yasir 'Arafat, head of the PLO, to his second homeland the kingdom confirms the great cohesion between the Saudi and Palestinian people which is increasing in strength every day. Without a doubt 'Arafat's visit to the kingdom is of special significance since it follows two important situations: firstly, the Israeli invasion of Lebanese territories and the subsequent siege of West Beirut, lasting 88 days, during which the Palestinian resistance under the leadership of Yasir 'Arafat manifested steadfastness of unparalleled magnitude in the face of modern Israeli war machinery; secondly, this visit moreover comes in the wake of the heinous massacre to which the sons of the Palestinian people were exposed in the Sabra and Shatila camps and the subsequent result of this Israeli barbarism which is extensive worldwide condemnation of this brutal deed recorded by the conscience of humanity. [Excerpt] [Muhammad Ja'far al-Ghani commentary] [LD211438 RIYADH Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Sep 82]

DECLINING OIL REVENUES--Jidda--Declining oil revenues brought Saudi Arabia's trade surplus down by 45 percent to \$23.8 billion in the first half of this year from 43.8 billion in the same period of 1981. The government's central department of statistics said oil revenues fell by a little less than

one-fifth in the first quarter, to \$24.6 billion and by one-third in the second quarter to \$20 billion. At the time, the kingdom's oil production is believed to have fallen around 6 million barrels-per-day. Exports fell most drastically to the U.S., which halved its oil imports from the kingdom to \$3.6 billion from \$7.7 billion in the first half of the year. [Excerpt] [GF161120 Manama Gulf DAILY NEWS in English 16-17 Sep 82 p 16]

CSO: 4400/502

SYRIA

SYRIAN PAPER CONDEMNS U.S. SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

JN171043 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 17 Sep 82

[Text] Damascus, 17 Sep (SANA)--The newspaper AL-BA'TH says in a comment today that the United States has fully exposed itself and that no Arab has the right to justify its friendship or talk about good points in its policy.

The Zionist storming operation against Beirut, the paper adds, is proof that Washington does not keep promises and that it is hostile to everything that is just and legitimate, especially Arab rights.

AL-BA'TH says that the United States is committed to backing Israel in all the crimes it commits and in all the racist and expansionist objectives it seeks to achieve.

Referring to what some U.S. agents call the Syrian tough line toward U.S. policy, the paper asserts that Syria is not being tough with U.S. plans, it just knows the truth about the United States. Syria does not have any confidence in U.S. policy, because the planners of policy see things only from the Zionist angle.

AL-BA'TH asks: Can the United States claim that it can restrain Israel, when U.S. support and assistance to continued Israeli aggression has turned the Middle East into a dangerous hotbed threatening world peace?

CSO: 4400/493

DAMASCUS ON U.S. COMPLICITY IN ISRAELI RAIDS

JN141840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Sep 82

[From "On the Events" program]

[Text] In order to avenge its defeat at the Fes Summit Conference, the United States made a move [against Syria] using Israel's aggression. The United States is attempting to transform its weapon in Israeli hands into a device to force the Arabs to capitulate to its hegemony and control over the entire region. Observers and news agencies have affirmed that yesterday's Israeli raids were planned before the Fes Summit issued its resolution. Washington had been under the illusion that through its agents, it would be stronger than the Arabs on their soil and more powerful than all representative Arab meetings on any level. And since the Zionist aim can be realized through the imperialist aim and the two sides' full partnership in planning and implementation, observers were unanimous that yesterday's aggression against the Syrian forces and Palestinian camps symbolized the U.S. desire to take revenge.

President Reagan's plan which was submitted by some and placed on the Fes Summit agenda was exposed, mainly due to Syria's stand in revealing the aims of this plan and its falling short of previous U.S. proposals. The defeat of the representatives of the U.S. policy was not confined only to the rejection of Reagan's plan but also the failure of their attempts to forgive the renegade regime in Egypt. This led Arab and foreign observers to ascertain the true nature of the regimes which have long been using slogans as a cover-up during their support of the Camp David agreements and during their plots against the pan-Arab cause.

The attempts to play the U.S. cards during the Fes Summit failed to suppress Arab demands. This forced the United States to resort to its old methods of bringing pressure to bear on the Arab steadfastness forces. Yesterday's aggression and U.S. failure at the Arab Summit cannot be separated since Syria had the most prominent role in drafting the summit's resolutions.

The Arabs must be committed to implementing their decision to mobilize their resources and energy to ward off the Zionist-imperialist threats against their homeland. Israel is the tool of aggression. It will not stop its aggression so long as its aims are not realized. In its capacity as a full partner in aggression, the United States will continue its pressure on the

Arabs until its aims are realized through Israel's expansionist designs. This forces the Arab nation not to distinguish between the aggressor and his partner.

Israel's aggressive nature and the job assigned to it by world imperialist and Zionist circles are behind any aggression against the Arabs at any place and at all times. Israel's claims that yesterday's military operations were in retaliation for cease-fire violations are false and confusing, and aimed at covering the political goals of any Israeli aggression against the Arabs, particularly Syria. Yesterday's aggression took place following the Fes Summit and the resolutions issued by it. These resolutions were counter to Israeli and U.S. desires. They wanted the resolutions to be a document of surrender but Syria's firm stand foiled all the attempts to realize these aims, something which provoked the wrath of Washington and Tel Aviv.

Yesterday's aggression against our forces is a threat and an ultimatum to Syria. It shows that Israel intends to strike at Syria in order to soften Syria's stand and to punish it for its role in the Fes Summit. In any event, this aggression could not have taken place without Washington's implicit agreement despite the calls by U.S. officials that the parties concerned should exercise self-control. We expect Israel to expand the circle of its aggression in order to complete the design drawn up for the region in accordance with U.S.-Israeli maps. The U.S. forces which have left Beirut will return to the region as the Americans put it. This means that there will be a new Israeli aggression and it may take place before Morris Draper, whom Reagan has promoted to ambassadorial rank, returns to begin where Philip Habib left off in Lebanon.

Syria is aware that the United States and Israel are chagrined because of their role in the Arab region. Syria is also aware that Israel has not massed its forces in Lebanon for an excursion in the Lebanese hills and plains. In addition to its ambitions in Lebanon, Israel has another aim, namely, dealing a military blow to Syria in order to force it to withdraw from Lebanon using the new political situation in Lebanon and exploiting the era of Bashir al-Jumayyil, the frank and overt U.S. agent who will be sworn in under the shadow of Israeli guns.

The political maps and the intentions of those who drew them have become clear. Israel can threaten and issue ultimatums but it cannot carry out its threats against Syria without paying an immense price. The aggression against our forces in Al-Biqa' will not be an excursion for enemy troops. Israel and the circles which incite it to commit aggression will realize that they are facing Syrian soldiers who are armed with their conviction in the just cause of their nation. The invading forces, no matter how they are armed, will not be able to break the back of the Syrian army. Al-Biqa' will be a graveyard for the invaders and for the ambitious dreams of the United States and Israel. Syria's stand will frustrate the hopes and wagering of some of the agents and corrupt Arab regimes. Syria will be stronger than any threat or aggression.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD LEADER ON PAST ACTIONS, PLANS

PM131435 Paris LE MATIN in French 7 Sep 82 p 13

[Interview with unnamed leader of At-Tali'ah al-Muqatilah Movement, the Muslim brotherhood's main armed organization, by Philippe Gazed in Amman: "The Syrian Muslim Brotherhood Suspends Armed Action"--date not given]

[Text] [Question] What is the origin of your movement?

[Answer] Until 1974 we were a faction trying from within to win over the whole Muslim brotherhood to the idea of armed struggle. We had begun to prepare for it. Before the 1970 events we trained with the Palestinian Fedayeen in Jordan. Moreover we took part in actions in Israel. Finally we separated from the "politicians" who were themselves divided into a majority faction led by 'Isam al-'Attar (the Muslim brotherhood's spiritual leader who took refuge in the FRG) and another led by 'Adnan Sa'd ad-Din (who took refuge in the gulf and then in Iraq). In 1976, 2 years later, we went into action.

[Question] How many men do you have?

[Answer] Between 1,000 and 5,000. We are not trying to find out the number regardless of the cost because we want to limit the risks if infiltration. Most of the mujahidin (fighters) are students engaged in higher studies. Some are very young: barely 11 years old!

[Question] What was your first attack?

[Answer] The assassination of Muhammad Khura, chief of the mukhabarat (secret police) for the city of Hamah. Up till 1979 we killed around 100 prominent people, the most important being Muhammad Fadl, one of Al-Asad's advisers. We did not claim responsibility for any of those attacks and we did not lose a single man. Then we thought it was time to come out into the open in a spectacular way. The Aleppo Military School with 265 Alawites out of 300 cadets was a ready-made target for this.

[Question] For how long had you been planning that operation?

[Answer] For 8 months. Ibrahim Yusuf, the school's security chief, was a Mujahid and that made our task considerably easier. On 15 June, the eve of

the attack, we placed bottles of butane gas in the bar of the functions hall. The next day Ibrahim Yusuf gathered the cadets there and then called out the Sunnis and Christians individually. It was then that nine Mujahidin, disguised as soldiers, opened fire with machineguns and launched grenades. The bottles of gas exploded: it was a real inferno and those who succeeded in escaping from it were mowed down by our bullets.

[Question] The official report states that 60 people were killed.

[Answer] The count was much higher: 260 killed and 5 survivors, permanently handicapped.

[Question] And on your side?

[Answer] All were able to flee but they died in action later aside from 'Adnan Uklah, At-Tali-ah al-Muqatilah's present political leader. Before fleeing they left pamphlets on the spot. This was the first time that we left our mark on one of our attacks.

[Question] As a result of that the city was placed under martial law.

[Answer] The army searched every district. However it was not able to discover anything because we had been informed in advance by our agents in the Mukhabarat. On our side we harrassed the government forces and civilians were shot in reprisals. Up to the end of 1980 6,000 people were arrested throughout the country. They were members or supporters of political fundamentalist organizations but not one Mujahid was arrested. However around 1,000 of them were killed in operations or trying to escape arrest.

[Question] What was your objective?

[Answer] To spark off a people's uprising. But the traditional Muslim leaders refused to join the movement and we failed.

[Question] You then launched a series of attacks. Were you responsible for the booby-trapped car which killed 90 people in downtown Damascus on 29 November 1981?

[Answer] No. That may have been a provocation. The Sa'd ad-Din faction claimed responsibility for it but I think that that was cheap publicity. In March 1981 we opened negotiations with the Muslim brotherhood's two political factions to attain unification with a view to a people's revolution. But nothing conclusive came of it.

[Question] Meanwhile you were planning the Hamah uprising?

[Answer] In fact we were planning a coup d'etat for 25 December 1981 at the latest. The air force was to bomb the Presidential Palace, the general staff offices, and the headquarters of the special forces headed by Rif'at al-Asad (the president's brother). The radio and television offices were to be invaded and Hamah would have risen up in those circumstances. We had

contacted officers, Mujahidin or members of other factions but without notifying their leaderships. We were not ready by the given date and we were discovered. More than 200 conspirators were arrested in two waves, the first in early January.

[Question] How was the Hamah uprising sparked off? There was talk of religious disturbances.

[Answer] Our headquarters was simply discovered on 2 February. Some 300 soldiers surrounded it but our people, scattered round the surrounding district, came to our aid. The battle lasted 1 hour and only 100 of the assailants were able to flee. Our leader 'Umar Jawad, who is known as Abu Bakr, immediately launched a call for holy war from the Mosque. Everybody had known since 18 January what he was to do in such a case. We had a huge stock of weapons of various calibers dispersed throughout the city. We shot 1,400 Mukhabarat agents, Alawites and agents of the regime. Two days later the army began the siege of Hamah.

[Question] What were the losses?

[Answer] Fifteen thousand civilians were killed. Four hundred Mujahidin were killed, including Abu Bakr. Six thousand soldiers were killed.

[Question] Since then there has been no further action. Are you preparing to strike again or are you opting for peace?

[Answer] For the time being we prefer peace. Our actions could only serve as a stepping stone for others. In March 1981 when the preliminary negotiations among the Muslim brotherhood were beginning, Sa'd a-Din's supporters formed an alliance with the socialists, Nasirists, and pro-Iraqi Ba'thists. We do not want to die for their benefit. And then there is Lebanon. The regime would have a fine time accusing us of working for Israel.

[Question] How long will the truce last?

[Answer] God knows. Not years at least. Moreover we are drawing up new tactics. The single-target actions hitherto carried out bring too many reprisals and cause too many innocent victims.

[Question] What will the new tactics be? To kill Al-Asad? Have you already tried to assassinate him?

[Answer] Frequently. We only narrowly missed on 26 June 1980. The Presidential Palace guards were to open fire on him. Unfortunately on D day, contrary to his custom, he entered the palace courtyard in his car and not on foot. One of the Mujahidin nonetheless threw a grenade. A bodyguard quickly pushed Al-Asad inside, saving his life. He emerged from that with a slight foot injury and 2 days later he had the 650 prisoners in Palmyra Prison massacred.

[Question] What is his present attitude toward you?

[Answer] He is trying to form an alliance with the Sa'd ad-Din faction provided the latter agrees to help in our liquidation. Contacts have been established in Saudi Arabia by Syrian Chief of General Staff Hikmat ash-Shihabi. He could well be the next prime minister at the head of a coalition government.

[Question] What is Saudi Arabia's interest in the affair? Is it to secure Al-Asad's support for the Fahd plan?

[Answer] It is primarily to prevent the establishment of an Islamic state. But the Fahd plan is indeed a card which Al-Asad is keeping up his sleeve.

[Question] If you gain power what institutions will you establish?

[Answer] A revolutionary council will appoint major voters in each city--people known for their piety, rectitude and capabilities. They in turn will appoint a president.

[Question] Will you authorize parties other than your own?

[Answer] No. We want God's government, in keeping with the Koran and the Sunna. Islam means freedom in all spheres, it is superior to democracy.

[Question] What will you do with the Alawites?

[Answer] The people will want vengeance on those who collaborated with the regime. As far as we are concerned, they will have the choice of conversion or exile.

CSO: 4400/493

BRIEFS

OPPOSITION REQUESTS AL-ASAD OUSTING--Damascus, 19 Sep (INA)--The National Alliance for the Liberation of Syria [At-Tahaluf al-Watani Li-Tahrir Suriya] has urged the Arab people of Syria and their forces of justice, as well as the devout Arab forces, to eliminate Haliz al-Asad's conspiratorial role and to return Syria to its pan-Arab position for the sake of the Arab patriotic issues. In a statement, the alliance said that overthrowing Hafiz al-Asad's regime is no longer an internal task that should be tackled by our people in Syria alone; but has rather become a broader responsibility that should be shouldered by the Arab brothers who have exposed the role of this regime and its ceaseless plots against the Arab homeland. The statement reviewed the internal situation in Syria, particularly after the massacre in the township of Hamah. The statement also reviewed the Arab situation since the Zionist invasion of Lebanon and the role of the agent regime in affecting the Arab arena. [Text] [JN191917 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 19 Sep 82]

CSO; 4400/493

YEMENI ARAB REPUBLIC

YAR PRESIDENT ON CANCELLATION OF CELEBRATIONS

GF211132 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Sep 82

[Excerpts] Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president, commander in chief of the armed forces and secretary general of the General People's Congress, today inaugurated the cement factory in 'Imaran which has been completed through local financing.

The economy and industry minister delivered a speech at the inauguration ceremony in which he reviewed the stages of the project. He said that the factory's production capacity totals 500,000 tons annually, at the rate of 35,000 sacks daily, and that this will meet more than 50 percent of domestic needs. He said that the project cost 576 million rials. It is thus one of the biggest projects of the first 5-year plan. The project was fully subsidized by the government, he said.

The brother leader, president and secretary general of the General People's Congress, then delivered the following speech:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Brother workers in the 'Imran Cement Factory, men of the national economy, citizens: I extend to you the greetings of the September revolution. On this great occasion with the beginning of our celebrations of the anniversary of the immortal 26 September revolution, we begin these celebrations by inaugurating this vital and important economic venture. It is a great achievement that has been accomplished through domestic and YAR Government financing. We congratulate our people for this and other achievements.

This is the first achievement of the industrial 5-year plan, the 'Imran Cement Factory. In our celebrations of the revolution anniversary we shall inaugurate many factories and projects--roads, schools, hospitals, irrigation and industrialization projects both in the public, private and mixed sectors. [passage omitted]

Brothers, while we were preparing to hold these great celebrations of the 26 September revolution, the permanent committee of the General People's Council in its first session canceled official celebrations and particularly the military parade, in solidarity with the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples in the massacre that you have seen reported on television--an unprecedented

massacre [words indistinct]. In its first session the permanent committee decided to cancel celebrations and the military parade. However, we shall participate with the people in their celebrations by inaugurating important economic projects. This in itself is a celebration of the great achievements. (?We could not have) put on a show in a military parade the tanks, guns and rockets while children, women and the elderly are being slaughtered in Beirut. This is a show of the solidarity of the Yemeni people and leadership with the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese people.

Brothers, once again I thank the workers of the 'Imran Cement Factory and the company that participated in the implementation of this important economic project. I thank all employees of economic institutions of the ministry of economy and industry. Thank you. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

Earlier the president had inaugurated the 'Imran-Hijla Road which was jointly implemented by the YAR and the PRC at a cost of 224 million rials. In a statement he made on the occasion the brother president praised the great efforts of the Chinese friends in implementing this important project together with Yemeni technicians and workers. He asserted that the 'Imran-Hijla Road demonstrates the determination of human work and cohesion and is a manifestation of the close cooperation between the Yemeni and Chinese peoples.

CSO: 4400/501

YEMENI ARAB REPUBLIC

YAR ISSUES STATEMENT ON BEIRUT MASSACRES

GF182050 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 18 Sep 82

[Report on statement issued by YAR Foreign Affairs Ministry on 18 September--
read by announcer]

[Text] A source at the Foreign Affairs Ministry has stated the following:
The YAR has followed the news of the horrible human massacres which are being
committed in Beirut by the Israeli and isolationist forces against the un-
armed Palestinian civilians in their camps, after the Israeli and isolation-
ist forces tightened the siege of the camps militarily and banned journal-
ists from the camps so that no reports on these terrorist massacres could
be released. The YAR calls on the international conscience, the United
Nations, the UN Security Council and its permanent members in particular
to urgently and resolutely (?react) to these massacres and to send an ur-
gent fact-finding mission [to inspect] these massacres, the like of which
humanity has never witnessed, in addition to fully documenting all acts of
international terrorism [being perpetrated] by the Israelis and the iso-
lationists. The YAR also holds the United States fully responsible for all
that is taking place in Beirut since it is the one which negotiated the Beirut
agreement.

CSO: 4400/501

END